

Technology and Society

ETES 5010/7010

Instructor: Dr. Robert C. Wicklein, Ed.D.
223 River's Crossing Bldg.

Office Hours: By Appointment
706-542-4503 (voice)
706-542-4054 (fax)
wickone@uga.edu (e-mail)

Required Textbooks: *Technology and the Future*, 10th Edition,
Albert H. Teich (Ed.) ©2006
ISBN: 0-534-60277-0
Technology Challenged: Understanding Our Creations &
Choosing Our Future, Miguel F. Aznar ©2005
ISBN: 10-9763858-0-5

Course Description:

The national *Standards for Technological Literacy: Content for the Study of Technology* specifically calls for students to develop an understanding of Technology and Society. This document identifies four content standards which speak directly to this area, they are:

- The cultural, social, economic, and political effects of technology
- The effects of technology on the environment
- The role of society in the development and use of technology
- The influence of technology on history (Standards for Technological Literacy, 2000).

With this as a basic foundational point for the study of technology, curriculum designers and developers must carefully consider these standards when instructing students. This course will concentrate on thinking about and analyzing issues as it relates to the study of impact of technology on society and vice versa.

Course Objectives:

We will explore these issues through the following objectives:

- 1) Identify and describe technology issues that are impacting or have impacted society.
- 2) Discuss the various "trigger effects" of technology that are impacting or have impacts on society in recent years.
- 3) Identify and discuss various social impact statements (e.g., technology and personal privacy, etc.)
- 4) Develop strategies to incorporate social impact issues into the study of technology education.

- 5) Analyze and develop a strategic plan for a technology education program that incorporates technological impacts.
- 6) Develop presentations with regards to current technological developments and their impact on society.

Course Requirements and Grading:

This course will require considerable out-of-class preparation. There will be six ways to evaluate your academic performance.

- 1) **TECHNOLOGICAL IMPACTS PAPER.**
After a careful reading and analysis of our textbooks and other readings you will be expected to develop and prepare a 5-7 page paper (double-spaced, APA format) addressing the concept of technological impacts on society and the role of technology education. Your paper should summarize the major points of your reading of Teich's and Aznar's book. Interweave how the concept of technological impacts on society can be or should be addressed within your field of study (e.g., technology education). Think critically as you develop an interesting approach of integrating technological impacts into your future classroom. Don't be afraid to think differently from what you have experienced in the past, push the envelope, be creative, you are in total control of what this might look like. You will be evaluated on your ability to describe a comprehensive approach to this topic.
This assignment will comprise 20% of your final grade.
- 2) **REACTION PAPERS.**
Your textbooks address several topics that pertain to some aspect of the impact of technology on society. You will have the opportunity to develop four (4) two (2) page reaction papers (single-spaced, APA format) (2 from each book) that summarize the major points of a given topic and provide your own analysis of the relevancy of the issue discussed. Your reaction papers should be well thought out, clearly written, and reflective of the topic with adequate analysis of the "big picture" issues (what does it say and what does it mean to society and your field of study, e.g., technology education).
This assignment will comprise 20% of your final grade.
- 3) **BOOK REVIEW.**
Complete a book review of *Technology Challenged: Understanding Our Creations & Choosing Our Future*. Your review should be 6-8 pages in length (double-spaced, APA format) and should highlight the major focus and premise of the book. Summarize the content of the book and conclude with a synthesis of how the thesis of the book can be applied to technology education.
This assignment will comprise 20% of your final grade.

4) **REFERENCES**

Identify two (2) additional reference materials (books, curriculums, movie videos/ DVD's, etc.) that address the issues relevant to this class. Provide a short 1-2 page (single-spaced, APA format) analysis of each resource, explaining why it would be appropriate for future class discussions relating to technology and society. Provide all bibliographic references for your identified materials.

This assignment will comprise 10% of your final grade.

5) **INTEGRATING IMPACTS INTO THE CURRICULUM.**

This assignment asks you integrate concepts of technological impacts on society within the curriculum of your field of study. Specifically, you are to select an existing curriculum (e.g., technology education modules, etc.) that you will work with to introduce a high quality technological impact component. The basic idea is to revise the curriculum to appropriately integrate the concepts and applications of the impacts of technology on society. Be creative, don't settle for the obvious, make it interesting and educational for students. If you do not have access to curriculum materials please inform me so that we can find you appropriate materials.

This assignment will comprise 10% of your final grade.

6) **UNANNOUNCED QUIZES.**

Two (2) unannounced quizzes will be administered during the semester. Quizzes will be objective in nature and will be specific to the assigned reading scheduled for the date when the quiz is administered. This assignment is designed encourage students to be fully vested in required reading for this course. Each quiz will be worth 5 points or 5% of your grade.

This assignment will comprise 10% of your final grade.

7) **FINAL EXAM.**

This will be an essay exam and sent to you as an e-mail attachment. These final questions will concentrate on the interweaving of the topics and issues within the *Technology and the Future* and *Technology Challenged* books. The questions will be somewhat controversial and will not be easily answered. The purpose of this exam procedure is to make you synthesize and evaluate the topics and issues that were critical to the concepts of technologies impact on society.

This assignment will comprise 10% of your final grade.

Grades:

Assignment	Percentage %
Technological Impacts Paper	20
Reaction Papers	20
Book Review	20
Integrating Impacts into the Curriculum	10
References	10
Quizzes	10
Final Exam	10

This scale will be used objectively in assigning grades. There is no grading curve in this course. For example, a student with a final percentage of 89.9% will receive a "B" regardless of how "close" it may be to an "A." You are responsible to give yourself whatever "safety zone" you feel is necessary to attain your targeted grade.

Late Assignments

I expect assignments to be completed on time. My standard policy regarding assignments is 10% penalty for late assignments turned in within 1 week of due date and 50% penalty for assignments turned in thereafter until the end of the course (defined as the last regular class session). I use this system even in the event of "excusables," such as minor sicknesses or other unforeseen conflicts. However, any exceptions to this policy are made at my discretion.

Honesty

Cheating on class assignments, examinations, or other serious forms of academic activities will result in a grade of an "F" (and a required report to University officials). Persons "borrowing" someone else's work on an assignment will receive a zero on that assignment if it is the first offense. A second offense will be considered a serious form of academic dishonesty. (Borrowee is equally subject to penalties.) Refer to UGA's [A Culture of Honesty: Policies and procedures on academic honesty.](#)