

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION**

FACULTY MEMBER:

TERM:

COURSE TITLE: Society and Technology

COURSE NUMBER: SOC 320

OFFICE HOURS/METHOD OF CONTACT:

Technical Requirements that may be required to utilize technology in this course:

A headset or microphone.

A webcam.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will apply sociological principles to understanding the impact technology has on social organization from the micro-level of the family to the macro-level of the nation. Students will consider how the technology of the past has shaped our present, and how the technology of the present will determine our future.

II. RATIONALE:

One of the central hallmarks of our species is our reliance on technology to solve our

plethora of electronic communications. Technology is not developed or introduced in a social vacuum. Nor is it socially neutral; its acceptance and use has both intended and unintended consequences. Technology is developed, implemented, and experienced within specific social environments, and it impacts and changes those social environments, often in fundamental ways. Paleolithic stone tools, the bow, the stirrup, the plow, the steam engine, the microchip—each of these had major impacts on the societies that developed or adopted them, and each made the development of the next possible. The purpose of this course is to examine the social contexts in

D-6 Place reactionary social movements within rapidly changing social environments, identifying the threats (real or supposed, economic or ideological) which are revealed.

GOAL E:

Students will demonstrate an ability to synthesize information presented:

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

E-1 Identify the areas in which major sociological theories are compatible and where they are incompatible.

E-2

