

**Utah State University**  
Department of Agriculture Systems Technology & Education  
**ASTE/ETE 3440**  
Science, Technology, and Modern Society  
Spring 2009

**Instructor:**

Ms. Monica Giffing

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Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. & 3:00- 4:00 p.m.  
(ASTE 119, others by appointment)

**Schedule**

Course Time: Tuesday & Thursday 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.

Location: ENGR 203

CRN: 12839 & 12849

**Course Description**

The course Science, Technology and Modern Society challenges students from all academic majors to develop an understanding of the dynamic interaction between science, technology and society; and the responsibility of humans in directing the utilization of technology as a creative enterprise. Students will critically investigate contemporary technological innovations, issues, and impacts on society from a global perspective.

During this course students in ASTE/ETE 3440 will:

**Course Objectives**

1. Develop an understanding of the dynamic interactions of society, technology & science.
2. Develop an understanding of technology's impact on cultural values and global mindsets.
3. Discover the influence of scientific thought on other disciplines.
4. Develop an understanding of the influence of technology on history.
5. Critically investigate contemporary technological innovations the issues and their impacts on society.

## **Course Resources for Students**

All course materials posted on Blackboard for ASTE/ETE 3440 (required)

## **Course Requirements & Grading:**

Students enrolled in this course will be expected to complete the requirements listed below.

1. All examinations will be scheduled. The Midterm and Final examinations will be based off of presentations & class discussions.
2. Student group presentations are expected. Presentations will explore selected course topics. Attendance during other students' presentations will count toward overall presentation grades.
3. Presentation Reports & Discussion Reports will be considered your weekly homework throughout the semester
4. I do not appreciate late work, therefore any assignments turned in after the due date/time will only receive 50% available credit.
5. Attendance is required.

Following are the percentage values of each course assignment:

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade Value</u>
Midterm Examination	20%
Quizzes & Weekly Class PR's & DR's	20%
Presentations	40%
Final Examination	20%

Following are *minimum* percentage totals used to calculate the final grades:

93% = A	87% = B+	77% = C+	67% = D+	<60% = F
90% = A-	83% = B	73% = C	60% = D	
	80% = B-	70% = C-		

## **Course Expectations and Academic Honesty:**

Academic Dishonesty - Cheating, plagiarism, or other acts of academic dishonesty interfere with University functions or threaten the well-being and the educational purposes of students and subject the student to discipline. Further information on violations of university standards can be found in the USU Student Code.

Attendance Policy - Each student is expected to attend all class meetings. Absences due to participation in sanctioned University activities are considered to be authorized absences. Such participation does not relieve the student of the obligation to meet the stated requirements of this course. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor for any make-up work. Please make arrangements in advance of the absence.

Reasonable Accommodation Statement - Qualified students with disabilities may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, 797-2444, voice, 797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-3966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print, or digital) are available with advance notice.

**Schedule & Topics**

Week 1		
T	1/6	<b>Class overview;</b> Introduction; Class project review and group & topic assignments. Class Discussion; formally define "technology" and "science"
R	1/8	<b>No Class - Blackboard assignment due by 2:45 p.m.</b>
Week 2		
T	1/13	<b>Biotechnology &amp; Agriculture</b>
R	1/15	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 3		
T	1/20	<b>Industrial Uses of Biotechnology (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	1/22	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 4		
T	1/27	<b>Biotechnology for Health (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	1/29	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 5		
T	2/3	<b>Cloning (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	2/5	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 6		
T	2/10	<b>Technologies to Sustain an Information Driven Culture (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	2/12	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 7		
T	2/17	No Class - Attend Monday Class Schedule
R	2/19	Mid-term available on-line during regular class time.
Week 8		
T	2/24	<b>Developments in Space (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	2/26	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 9		
T	3/3	Tour – USU Space Dynamics Lab
R	3/5	Tour – USU Space Dynamics Labs
Week 10		
T	3/10	SPRING BREAK
R	3/12	SPRING BREAK
T	3/17	<b>Bioastronautics (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	3/19	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )

Week 11		
T	3/24	<b>Contemporary Technology in Medicine (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	3/26	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 12		
T	3/31	<b>Emerging modes of transportation</b>
R	4/2	Class Discussion ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 13		
T	4/7	<b>Industrial Manufacturing (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	4/9	Class Discussion; ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> ) Quiz Review
Week 14		
T	4/14	<b>Food Processing (DR from previous class due)</b>
R	4/16	Class Discussion; ( <b>PR from previous class due</b> )
Week 15		
T	4/21	<b>Semester in Review</b>
R	4/23	Wrap up & final discussion
FINALS		
T	4/28	<b>Final Available at 8:00 a.m. - Due Thursday 4/30 at 3:30 p.m.</b>

\* Every class presentation will require a presentation report (PR) it is to be generated from each group presentation it will be due the following class. (assignment available on and submitted via Blackboard)

\*\* Every class discussion will require participation and a discussion report (DR) that will be generated from the discussion it will be due the following class. (layout available on Blackboard hard copy due the following class)