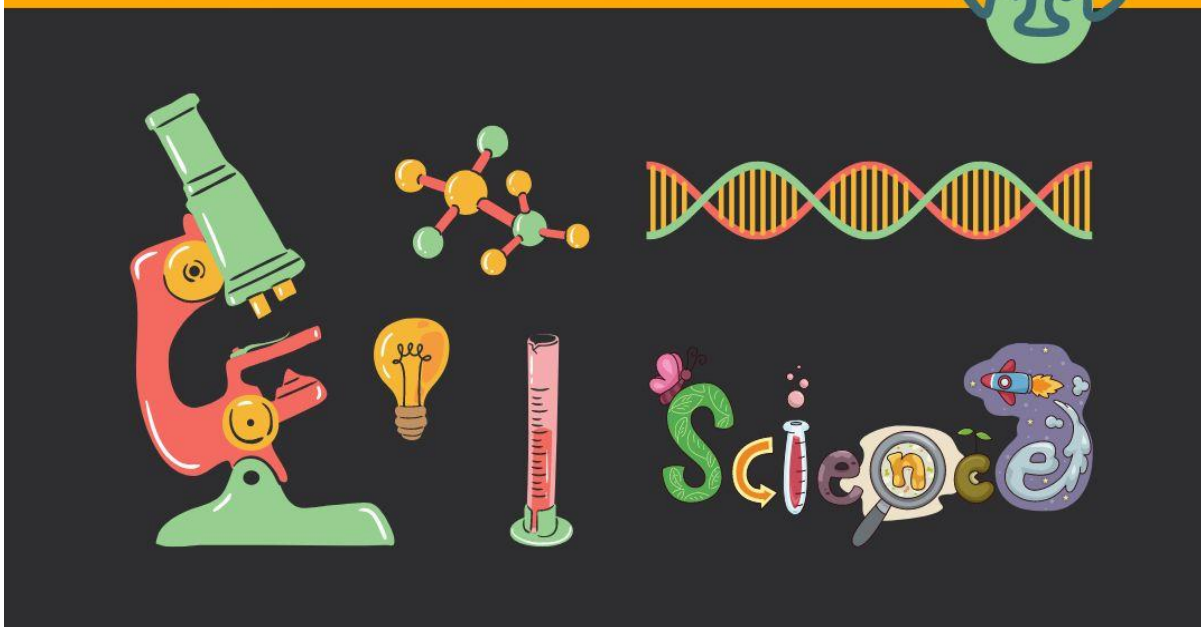


Introduction to Science and Technology Studies

SUMMER II 2022
Tandon School of Engineering

Dr. Melissa Maldonado-Salcedo
melmalsal@nyu.edu

NYU



Course Organization

Week Content Folders

- Texts
- Lectures (links to recordings & notes)
- Assignments

Writing Resources and Rubrics

- Critical Resources to Support your Development as a writer and critical thinker
- Guides for Assignments

Course Rules

- All Texts are organized on Brightspace by Weekly Content Folder
- All Lectures and Weekly-CheckIns will be on Brightspace in Weekly Content Folder

- Assignments that are on the Discussion Board and Responses to classmates count as Class Participation
- When Noted, post in the Discussion board AND in the Assignment Tab
- I will close the Weekly Threads for Assignment Submissions upon Grading and post an announcement. No late work will be accepted after the thread closes or over email.

Monday- Lecture for Week posted by 8 pm EST

Post Announcement with Weekly Reminders and Highlights

Tuesday- Assignment per syllabus

Wednesday- Homework

Thursday- Assignment per Syllabus

Friday- End of Week Check-In posted by Noon EST

Saturday- All HWs for the Week are due by 5 PM EST

Sunday- Grading of Work for the Week

Course Schedule:

- Tuesday, Week 2, session one will meet on Zoom (to review the course)
- Weekly Lectures will be recorded and posted by 8 PM on Mondays
- The course will be run fully ASYNCH after Week 2, session 1- no zoom sessions
- All Assignments for the week are due by **Saturday at 5 pm** on the corresponding Week.
- You have a **“GENERAL QUESTIONS”** discussion board where you can post specific questions about the course content (related to concepts, assignments, etc.) Please indicate the Week you are asking about.

Ex. Week 2—“What does Oppression Mean?”

I will respond to these threads on *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays*.

Office Hours will be arranged to accommodate time zones and other needs per appointment.

Please reach out if you would like to set up a time to talk.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1

- Assignment: Introduc
- tions (post in Discussion board)
- Review of Course Materials

Week 2 - Science and Technology in OUR World

Read

- “Evidence should not be Optional” in Scientific American
- “Covid-19 recovery: science isn’t enough to save us” by Hetan Shah

Homework-Discussion Board

“What is the best Scientific Discovery in your Opinion and Why?”

Watch (In-Class)

- “Scientific Studies” on *Last Week Tonight*

Thursday

Read:

- “24 Interventions that Changed Music” by Kenny Herzog
- “Hybrid Work is Doomed” by Ian Bogost

Homework-Discussion Board

- “*What is your favorite technological invention and why?*”

Watch (In-Class)

- “The Truth About Kids and the Internet” by *The New York Times*

Due for Week 2 by Saturday at 5 pm

- 2 Discussion Question Responses- Post in Discussion Board *and* Assignment Tab
- Reply to 4 of your classmates (2 per topic, a total of 4)- Post on the Discussion Board

WEEK 3 - ON THEORY AND PRACTICE: Histories, Ethics, and Rights

Read

- “How Does Science Really Work?” by Joshua Rothman
- “The Idea That a Scientific Truth can be ‘Falsified’ is a Myth” by Mano Singham
- “Genealogy of Modern Racism” by Cornel West

Watch

- “Critical Race Theory” on *Last Week Tonight* (In-Class)
- “The Racial Wealth Gap” in *Explained* (recommended)

Thursday

Read

- “Introduction: the Power of Algorithms” in the *Algorithm of Oppression* by Safiya Umoja Noble
- “The Biggest Lie tech people tell themselves—and the rest of us” by Rose Evelev
- “How is Face Recognition Surveillance Technology Racist?” by the ACLU

Watch

- “How Australia is Cracking Down on Internet Trolls” by *Vice News*

Reflection Question

- How Can technology be (mis)used to oppress communities? How do you think this issue can be resolved? (2-3 pages, Standard, Cite 2-3 texts from Weeks 1-3)

Due Week 3 due by Saturday at 5pm

- Reflection Question (midterm essay)- Post in Assignment Tab

WEEK 4 HEALTHY PROGRESS: Indigenous Knowledge and the Brain

Read

- “The Exactitude of Science” by Jorge Luis Borges
- “Understanding Trauma and the Brain” by Emily Greenberg
- “Questing Truth, Reality, and the Role of Science” by Billip Ball

Discussion Question for Week 4:

- “*What is something you believe in that has yet to be scientifically confirmed?*” (1 page)
Example: Horoscope

Thursday

Read

- “The Milk of Sorrow” by Kimberly Theidon

Watch

- *The Milk of Sorrow* (2010)- Available on Kanopy

Due Week 4 by Saturday at 5pm

- Discussion Question (Post on Discussion Board *and* Assignment tab)
- Reply to 2 Classmates (Post on Discussion Board)
- Film Review (2-3 pages, Standard)- Post in Assignment Tab

WEEK 5 THE TECHNOLOGY OF INTIMACY: Sense of Health and Self

Read

- “The Virtues and Downsides of Online Dating” by Monica Anderson, Emily A. Bogels, and Ericka Turner
- “The Impact of Health Information Technology on Patient Safety” by Yasser K. Alotaibi
- “Catfishing with a Happy Ending” by Jeff Maysh

Discussion Question for Week 5:

They Say 1 in 6 Relationships begin Online. Do you believe that online relationships are “real?” Why or Why Not? (1 Page, respond to 2 classmates)

Thursday

Read

- “How AI is Learning to Identify Toxic Content” by Laura Hanu, James Thewlis, Sasha Haco
- “Beauty Weights in Argentina” by Melissa Maldonado-Salcedo

Watch

- *Killing us Softly 4*, available on Kanopy

Due Week 5

- Discussion Question Response (Post on Discussion Board and Assignment Tab)
- Respond to 2 classmates (on the discussion board)
- Public Awareness Ad-1 ad to bring attention to an issue that has an impact on relationships - that shape a sense of health or self)

WEEK 6- THE ENVIRONMENT and BEYOND

Read

- “A Voice in the Night” by William Hope Hodgson
- “Human Migration Sparked by Wars, Disasters, and now Climate” by Erin Blakemore

Watch

- “Environmental Racism” on *Last Week Tonight*

Thursday

Fieldwork

Identify in your Neighborhood 5 areas that speak to an Environmental Problem and tell that Story in a Photo Essay & Include Artist Statement.

