

University of Kentucky
School of Information Science (SIS)
ICT 150 Experience ICTs
Section 001/ This class is Asynchronous and Online

This class is online and asynchronous with strict deadlines and participation requirements. Always start each module by reading the Module Overview on our Canvas shell!

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Main Instructor: Dr. Fátima Espinoza Vásquez (She/her/hers)

Office Hours: T/Th 1pm-2pm via Zoom

Zoom meeting room: Join from PC, Mac, Linux, or mobile device:

<https://uky.zoom.us/j/98792708703?pwd=V3ZBdDF5MlZyL3VXV2ZSa1VKWEx1QT09>

Short URL: shorturl.at/bvGZ3

Meeting ID: 987 9270 8703

Password: 098555

Preferred method of communication: Canvas Inbox

E-mail: fatima.espinoza@uky.edu

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COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

Through the exploration of social and technological theories related to Information Communication Technology and the evolution and current applications of ICT, students will gain a better understanding of how the emergence of ICT as a discipline. They will recognize its shared commonalities with other disciplines; its distinct characteristics; its applications in the workplace and personal contexts; and its impact and future implications on individuals, organizations, and societies.

Course Objectives

The objective of this course is for students to:

- Obtain the ability to collect, evaluate, analyze, contextualize, and communicate scientific information about ICTs and their role in society.
- Gain social science research proficiencies, so they can identify, investigate, and solve social problems using sophisticated and holistic approaches that incorporate ICTs.
- Acquire analytic skills in order to make evidence-based personal, professional, and civic decisions.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will understand Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) as a discipline in the Social Sciences. We will achieve this by exploring ICTs' history, theories, applications, impact, and future through discussions, contextualizing exercises, and a research project developed in four modules. This way, students will be able to evaluate, conduct, and incorporate scientific research into their personal, professional, and social lives.

- At the end of the first part, students will be able to define and explain ICTs from contrasting theoretical perspectives. We will achieve this by reading, debating, and writing about ICT theories and discussing social science and its ethical factors.
- At the end of the second part, students will be able to evaluate ICT studies by engaging in research critiques, producing a literature review, and designing a research project

about ICTs. Their research will take place in a variety of contexts, including but not limited to: Government, Business, Sustainability, Education, Social Justice, Agriculture, and Arts.

- At the end of the third part, students will be able to apply social science research principles to infer about ICT impact and relevance in today's society. They will achieve this by implementing their research plan and conducting data collection exercises in multiple industries, fields, and careers that use ICTs.
- By the end of the fourth part, students will be able to analyze, critique, and communicate research results through the creation of a research paper documenting findings, predicting futures, and proposing solutions.

Course Format and Structure

This class will take place online and is **highly interactive**. That is, this is not one of those classes where log into CANVAS one or two days before assignments are due. In other words, even though we will not meet face to face, students will meet online with teammates and you will work on their own time while abiding by the course meetings, deadlines, and participation expectations.

This semester is divided into four (4) parts.

- (1) Defining ICT: Here, we will define ICTs and understand the various theories that explain the role of ICTs in society.
- (2) ICT in Use: Here we will look at a variety of studies that explain how ICTs are used for different activities (e.g., Education, Business, Arts, etc.)
- (3) Impact of ICT: In this part, we will study how society has changed thanks to ICTs
- (4) Future of ICT: In this part, we will study and create future scenarios about ICTs.

Each part has several modules. Each week we will have a new module posted on Tuesdays at 6pm for a total of 15 modules (Refer to the course schedule at the end).

Each module has a

- (1) **module overview** with instructions for the week,
- (2) **learning material**, which students must read or watch and
- (3) **activities and assignments**. Successful completion of each part requires completing all module assignments.

Always start each module by reading the "Module Overview". It contains instructions on how to engage with that week's content.

To have a fruitful interactive learning experience, students must **engage** with the course material, activities, instructor, and with their classmates **throughout the week, not just before deadlines**. Students are expected to spend **at least three hours** each week on coursework (i.e., lectures, readings, exercises, and assignments).

Required Materials

All readings will be listed on Canvas. Most will be available through UK's Online Journals or UK Libraries. Students are expected to do all the required readings every week.

Technology Requirements

Minimum technical requirements for UK courses and suggested hardware, software, and internet connections are available at [ITS Student Hardware & Software Guidelines](#).

In this class, to successfully participate in lecture polls, to access readings, and take exams; students will need:

- An Internet-ready device such as *a laptop, or tablet*.
- Access to [Zoom](#) (which they should already have with their link blue username and password).
- Online access or downloaded to their computers *a word processing software, Excel spreadsheets, presentation software like PowerPoint, and an Internet browser*.
- Access to Canvas through their UK ID. Note that on tablets Canvas seems works better in the browser as opposed to the app.

Technical Support

For account help, contact UK's [Information Technology Customer Services online](#), by [email](#), or by phone at 859-218-HELP (4357).

STUDENT EVALUATION

This course requires constant online interaction throughout the week (e.g., Readings, group work, assignments, polls, etc.). Each student is responsible for completing readings, turning in assignments, and participating regularly and on time. In other words, **they must engage early and through the week, do not wait until the last minute to complete readings or assignments, especially during group assignments.**

Grading Parameters

- Assignments and activities 60% (At least one every week 5-10 pts each)
- Papers and Projects 30% (At least two, including the final paper)
- Participation, professionalism, and good citizenship 10%

Grading Scale

- 95 – 100% = A (Exceptional Achievement)
- 85 – 94% = B (High Achievement)
- 70 – 85% = C (Average Achievement)
- 60 – 69% = D (Below Average)
- Below 60% = F (Failing)

Mid-term and Final Grades

Grades will be posted in myUK by the deadline established in the [Academic Calendar](#).

- **Midterm grades will be posted in myUK by October 12.**
- **Final grades will be posted in myUK by December 8.**

Students can and should monitor their grades on Canvas throughout the semester.

ASSIGNMENTS

There will be a **new module each week, which will be made available on Tuesdays at 6 pm.** Students will complete a variety of assignments and exercises for each module *by the next Monday at 10:00 pm.*

These assignments/exercises apply skills, concepts, and processes covered in the readings and class materials.

Term Papers and Projects

Students are expected to complete three (3) papers. Each paper will be used to determine comprehension of readings, discussions, and lectures, evaluation of theories, analysis of data, and contextualization of ICTs. The final paper will be a comprehensive research report that will bring together all the work done throughout the semester.

1. **Defining ICTs:** Students will use theories to analyze a current ICT-related phenomenon. They will be required to back up their responses by explaining and applying the theories and concepts learned in class correctly.
2. **Annotated Bibliography:** Students will select an “area of impact” to research and compile an annotated bibliography. The articles should be scholarly, present a social science view, and address the impact area chosen. Annotations should summarize the article and tell how it relates to the impact area and ICT.
3. **Research Paper:** The final research paper will be built from the start of the semester. Attending class is imperative for the completion of the final paper. The paper will report the results of a small research project that students will develop throughout the semester.
4. **Current Events:** Students will work in teams to create a short educational video. They will use the theories learned in class to discuss a contemporary issue, and its relevance to the topic assigned their team.

Assignments and Activities

Engaged and respectful dialogue is necessary for better comprehension; we will devote time to discussion and learning activities.

Students will work individually, work in groups, have one-on-one meetings with the instructor, and participate in discussions and other activities.

Students with thoughtful and original contributions and frequent comments/questions/participation will receive full points.

All discussions should be respectful and intellectually stimulating. Disrespectful participation will not be tolerated. All activities will be graded, so regular engagement is crucial to succeeding in this class.

Type of Assignments and Activities

Students will submit one or more of the following type of assignments:

1. **BYO Understanding:** Students should bring in their own definitions. The descriptions should be based only on current knowledge. Does not require reading course materials yet. Definitions are also needed to be submitted through Canvas before the start of class.
2. **BYO Example of Future:** Students should bring in an example of where ICT is going or progressing. These examples should come from articles found in popular or scholarly materials and can be electronic or print. The ideas presented can be fictional or factual; it

just needs to be a published idea. Students should be prepared to share information about the example to the class. Students should submit their example and source in Canvas before the start of class.

3. **BYO Question:** Students should bring a thought-provoking possible test question related to the daily assigned readings.
ICT Observation: Students should observe and record when, where, how, and why they use ICT and observe ICT in use. Students can select the time for the observation but must be during the active part of their day and should include at least 6 hours of data (do not have to be consecutive). Before conducting research, students should visit the UK's Office of Research Integrity website to learn about research ethics.
4. **Debates:** There will be multiple debates throughout the semester on a variety of topics. Students should be prepared to participate on either side of the debate. Students should submit a statement supporting one side of the debate to Canvas before the start of class. The statement should include the reference to one of the assigned reading or any other scholarly article. (For other scholarly articles, please supply citation.)
5. **Mini-Workshops:** Students will build their final Research Paper through several in-class workshops and incorporate the other two course papers.
6. **Visualizing Experiences:** Students will create an infographic explaining a situation following the design principles learned in class
7. **Observation Presentation/Discussion:** Students will bring their findings from the ICT Observation assignment to the class. In small groups, students will share their findings and discuss the results. Each group will summarize their discussion to share with the class.
8. **Reading Assessments:** During the semester, students will participate in exercises about the readings and lectures. They might be polls, BYOQuestions, quizzes, or mini reflections. They are designed to encourage students to complete reading assignments and actively participate in the classroom.
9. **Scenario Thinking Assignment:** Students should write a narrative of a selected scenario created by their group. The scenario should be well developed, believable story. The story should have a beginning, middle, and end; it should include a plot related to the focal question, ICT, and the fundamental forces; and it should contain realistic characters.

Most of these activities will be completed and discussed virtually. Students will need a wi-fi enabled device (like a tablet, laptop, etc.) to participate fully. The instructor might implement new types of assignments and activities according to student interests and needs.

Participation and Citizenship

Classroom participation and citizenship is a part of your grade in this course. You will be evaluated by the instructor based the following criteria.

Expected

- Join class having prepared the materials for the day.
- Questions and comments must be relevant to the topic at hand.
- Thoughtful, original, and frequent contributions/comments/questions/participation.
- Engagement in intellectually stimulating discussions
- Respectful online and face-to-face interactions with other students and the instructor.

Not Tolerated

- Disrespectful interactions (toward the instructor or students).
- Disruptive behavior like use of dog-whistle, harassment, and passive aggressive language in discussions.
- Sex- and gender-based discrimination or interpersonal violence.

Assignments Format and Submission

- All homework must include your name, instructors' names, the course and section, and the date.
- All assignments, deadlines, and instructions will be available on Canvas.
- All assignments must be submitted to Canvas by the imposed deadline. When submitting assignments on Canvas, make sure to give your work a document name to indicate what the item is. For example, you may title your assignment **"Lastname_DefiningICTs ICT150."**
- You are responsible for keeping back-up (I recommend several) copies of all your work since electronic texts can be lost.
- All assignments must be written in Standard English with correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation. I recommend using the UK Writing Center <https://uky.mywconline.com>

Self-Discipline

You are responsible for completing readings, turning in assignments, and attending class. Technical problems can occur so, you should not wait until the last minute to complete readings or submit assignments. Remember to check Canvas **regularly and often** for class updates or additional information. All announcements and information about the class will be posted on the Announcements section of Canvas.

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

Professional Behavior

Thus, students should approach this course with professionalism. Which implies being punctual, participating actively in all activities, presenting high-quality work, doing readings, and maintaining an open, yet respectful, and engaged attitude.

We strive to build a respectful atmosphere; thus, interactions should remain professional, supportive, respectful, and focused on learning. Be **extremely mindful** of the language you use and the way you address your instructor and your classmates. Avoid personal attacks or references, be kind, polite, courteous, avoid overcriticizing or negativity, avoid making premature assumptions, be empathetic, and value other people's opinions.

Attendance

This is an online asynchronous class. However, while we will not be meeting face to face at the same time there will be strict weekly deadlines.

Therefore; regular engagement through assignments and exercises is **essential** to succeed in this course.

Only students who submit appropriate documentation for an excused absence (defined in the next section) will be eligible to make up missed activities.

Excused Absences

Students need to notify the professor of absences in advance when possible. Students have up to one week following an excused absence to provide appropriate documentation. Students are responsible for discussing with the instructor ways in which they will make up for missed activities within one week following the excused absence. (Per *Senate Rule 5.2.4.2*).

Senate Rules 5.2.4.2 defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences:

- (a) significant illness,
- (b) death of a family member,
- (c) trips for members of student organizations sponsored by an educational unit, trips for University classes, and trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events,
- (d) major religious holidays,
- (e) interviews for graduate/professional school or full-time employment post-graduation, and
- (f) other circumstances found to fit "reasonable cause for nonattendance" by the instructor of record.

Verification of Absences (Senate Rules 5.2.4.2.A, B, C, and E)

Students may be asked to verify their absences in order for them to be considered excused. *Senate Rule 5.2.4.2* states that faculty have the right to request appropriate verification when students claim an excused absence due to acceptable reasons for excused absences.

Illness

Acceptable verification of excused absences due to illness includes documentation from a medical professional (e.g. e-mails from University Health Services, documents from University Health Services for extended absences (must accurately identify date range for absence), documents provided by University Health Services will only be accepted for up to 2 absences (non-consecutive days).

University-related Trips

Appropriate notification of absences due to University-related trips is required prior to the absence when feasible and in no case more than one week after the absence.

Religious Holidays

Students anticipating an absence for a major religious holiday are responsible for notifying the instructor in writing of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays two weeks prior to the absence. Information regarding major religious holidays may be obtained through [the Ombud's website](#) or calling 859-257-3737.

If a student's total EXCUSED absences exceed 1/5 (or 20%) of the required interactions for the course, the student shall have the right to request and receive a "W," or the Instructor of Record may award an "I" for the course if the student declines a "W." (Senate Rules 5.2.4.2.1)

Late Work

Late work will only be accepted for assignments and needs to be negotiated with the instructor. Late work submitted within 24 hours will receive a 20% penalty. Late work submitted within 48 hours will receive a 30% penalty, and late work received before 72 hours will receive 40% off. No late work is accepted after three days.

Fall Academic Calendar and Reading Days

Several modifications to the academic calendar have been made in response to the COVID-19 situation. The current calendar is available [here](#).

The calendar features a Reading Day. The current Dead Week restrictions on certain instructional activities would continue to apply to Reading Days. An additional restriction would apply to Reading Days, namely no required class meetings or, more generally, no “required interactions.” Reading Days are not academic holidays.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Per University policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the University may be imposed. Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#). Complete information can be found on the [Academic Ombud](#) page. A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

Cheating

It includes, but is not limited to, the wrongfully giving, taking, or presenting any information or material by a student with the intent of aiding himself/herself or another on any academic work which is considered in any way in the determination of the final grade.

Plagiarism

Senate Rule 6.3.1 (see current [Senate Rules](#)) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording, or content from another source without appropriate acknowledgment of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism.

Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work (including, but not limited to a published article, a book, a website, computer code, or a paper from a friend) without clear attribution. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work, which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be. Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone.

When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources or information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she has employed them. If the words of someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content, and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas, which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain.

Please note: Any assignment you turn in may be submitted to an electronic database to check for plagiarism.

Falsification/Misuse of Academic Records (SR 6.3.3)

Maintaining the integrity, accuracy, and appropriate privacy of student academic records is an essential administrative function of the University and a basic protection of all students.

Accordingly, the actual or attempted falsification, theft, misrepresentation or other alteration or misuse of any official academic record of the University, specifically including knowingly having unauthorized access to such records or the unauthorized disclosure of information contained in such records, is a serious academic offense. As used in this context, "academic record" includes all paper and electronic versions of the partial or complete permanent academic record, all official and unofficial academic transcripts, application documents and admission credentials, and all academic record transaction documents. The minimum sanction for falsification, including the omission of information, or attempted falsification or other misuse of academic records as described in this section is suspension for one semester.

E-mail Policy

Please allow 24 hours for your instructor to respond to your e-mail during the school week. On weekends, responses may not be made until Monday. Before you e-mail with questions, please read your assignment information and syllabus carefully. If you have not heard from your instructor within 24 hours, please send a follow-up e-mail.

The policies about professional behavior apply here too, so be professional, respectful, and mindful of the language you use when addressing your instructor. Avoid personal attacks or references, be kind, polite, courteous, avoid overcriticizing or negativity, avoid making premature assumptions, be empathetic.

Finally, please adhere to the following rules when sending an email. Your instructor receives hundreds of emails every day, following these rules helps her help you better.

Always	Example
Include the class code and a description of the e-mail topic in the subject line.	Subject: ICT150 Team project question

Include an appropriate salutation. Begin with a greeting and address your professor by her appropriate title and last name.	Good afternoon, Professor Espinoza, Or Hello, Dr. Espinoza
Include an appropriate signature with your full name, class code, and section	Jane Doe IST150 Section 001
Use standard punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and grammar.	Instead of writing "idk what 2 rite about in my paper can you help??" try something like, "I am writing to ask about the topics you discussed in class yesterday."

Office Hours

I will be available to speak with during office hours on T/Th 1pm-2pm via Zoom.

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, or mobile device:

<https://uky.zoom.us/j/98792708703?pwd=V3ZBdDF5MlZyL3VXV2ZSa1VKWEx1QT09>

Short URL: shorturl.at/bvGZ3

Meeting ID: 987 9270 8703

Password: 098555

Questions

If students have questions of a personal nature regarding grades, attendance, or other issues, the classroom or e-mail is not the appropriate platform for that discussion. Students should contact the instructor to schedule an appointment to discuss.

Reference Librarians and Online Learning Resources

There is a librarian specialized in ICTs. Her name is Stacey Greenwell, her phone number is 218-1322, and her e-mail is stacey@uky.edu. I encourage you to contact her for help finding the resources for this class.

Also, the reference librarians on the 2nd floor, North Wing of W.T. Young Library are more than happy to help you with your research for this class and any class you have. Please feel free to visit, call (859-218-2048), e-mail (refdesk@uky.edu), or chat

(<http://libraries.uky.edu/libchat.html>) with them, unless your assignment requests that you do not seek their assistance. See the Libraries' Homepage for more information.

You also have available UK's [Distance Learning Library Services](#). [Carla Cantagallo](#), is the Distance Learning Librarian, contact her at 859-218-1240

Non-Discrimination Statement and Title IX Information

Discrimination towards any member of our class (i.e. students and instructors) will not be tolerated.

Discrimination is prohibited at UK. If you experience an incident of discrimination, we encourage you to report it to Institutional Equity & Equal Opportunity (IEEO) Office, 13 Main Building, (859) 257-8927.

If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination or interpersonal violence, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member or TA/RA/GA,

understand that as a "Responsible Employee" of the University these individuals MUST report any acts of violence (including verbal bullying and sexual harassment) to the University's Title IX Coordinator in the IEEO Office. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, the Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) program (Frazee Hall – Lower Level; <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/VIPCenter/>), the Counseling Center (106 Frazee Hall, <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Counseling/>), and the University Health Services (<http://ukhealthcare.uky.edu/uhs/student-health/>) are confidential resources on campus.

Academic Ombud

Dr. Joe McGillis, the Academic Ombud will assist you with a variety of issues, including grade disputes. She is in 109 Bradley Hall, and her number is 859-257-3737. You can e-mail her at ombud@uky.edu.

Accommodations due to Disability

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC coordinates campus disability services available to students with disabilities. Visit the [DRC website](#), [email the DRC](#), contact them by phone at (859) 257-2754, or visit their office on the corner of Rose Street and Huguelet Drive in the Multidisciplinary Science Building, Suite 407. Their web address is <http://www.uky.edu/DisabilityResourceCenter>.

Sustainability Statement

This is a sustainable classroom. Here your instructors aim

- (1) to create the healthiest, most collaborative and innovative learning environments possible,
- (2) to reduce your costs and improve your intellectual development through thoughtful resource conservation and waste reduction,
- (3) to foster a culture of involvement in sustainability through education and engagement, and
- (4) to enable UK students, faculty, our campus, and our Commonwealth to become more sustainable through the use of University resources.

Sustainability starts with you taking care of yourself so that you can be at your best in this class. Do the readings and homework assignments. Come to class. Join in the discussion. Get enough sleep, water, and food beforehand. If you are facing challenges securing classroom materials, food, or housing, and this is affecting your performance in class, please contact the Dean of Students, Nicholas Kehrwald, at nkehrwald@uky.edu or 859-257-3754. Furthermore, please notify your instructor if you are comfortable doing so. This will enable her to provide any resources that she may possess.

University Policies

University policies concerning academic integrity, excused absences, incompletes, and academic accommodations due to Disability are available online at <https://ci.uky.edu/sis/sites/default/files/policies.pdf>

Class Schedule

Learning does not always happen on schedule, and so changes may be made to meet the individual needs of the class. You will be responsible for checking the online syllabus and schedule before beginning your homework for any changes or updates.

TENTATIVE TOPICS AND SCHEDULE

	Module #	Date	Topic
Part I: What are ICTs and What is Science	1.	Tuesday, Aug 18	Class Introductions and Syllabus/
	2.	Tuesday, Aug 25	What are ICTs? / ICTs as a Social Science
	3.	Tuesday, Sep 1	ICT Theories 1: Information Society and Network Society
	4.	Tuesday Sep 8	ICT Theories 2: Technological Determinism and Social Construction of Technology
Part II: ICT Research and Use	5.	Tuesday, Sep 15	Literature Reviews
	6.	Tuesday, Sep 22	Current Events
	7.	Tuesday Sep 29	Current Events
	8.	Tuesday, Oct 6	Current Events
	9.	Tuesday, Oct 13	Midterm: Annotated Bibliography
Part III: ICT Impact and Data Collection	10.	Tuesday, Oct 20	Doing Research and Research Project Management
	11.	Tuesday, Oct 27	Doing Research: Research Questions

	12.	Tuesday, Nov 3	Doing Research: Qualitative Research
	13.	Tuesday, Nov 10	Doing Research: Quantitative Research
Part IV: Research Results and the Future of ICTs	14.	Tuesday, Nov 17	Data Collection and Project Writing
		Tuesday Nov 24	Thanksgiving Break
	15.	Tuesday, Dec 1	Project Presentations
	16.	Tuesday, Dec 8	Final Grades Posted