

UKC 380

ICT in Society

LCLI Room 312

Spring 2016: T-TH 2:00 am – 3:15pm

Instructor: Patric Spence
Office: 310D Little Library

Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00-3:00 and by appointment
E-mail: patric.spence@uky.edu

Course Description

We live in a world of rapid technological innovation. This innovation has allowed significant changes in the ways that we communicate and interact with forms of media. In fact, the technologies related to communication have created a culture surrounding how we see, hear, read and use information, and have significantly impacted politics, economics, policy, etc. This course studies the impacts of information and communication technology (ICT) on individuals, organizations, and society, and the impact that society has on ICTs. It examines current issues related to the diffusion of new technologies in society as well as the obstacles to widespread use of individual ICTs. Students in this course will analyze the various theories related to the use of emerging communications forms, and consider the factors related to successful ICT deployment. Students will be required to look beyond “positive/negative” classification of new communication technology, and conduct in-depth interrogations of ICTs and the issues that surround them..

Note: This course fulfills the UK Core requirement in the area of “U.S. Citizenship.” This class also fulfills the Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement for all ICT majors and those majoring in other areas with approval. This means that this is an **intensive** communication course, requiring a significant amount of written, visual, oral, and group communication both in and outside of class. If you are unwilling to put in the effort necessary, please reconsider your enrollment in this course.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Identify major information-related social issues in contemporary society, and describe the various perspectives that characterize current debates on those issues.
- Describe and discuss the various theories related to various ICTs and be able to recognize the influence of these theories in current debates and discussions.
- Examine new ICTs and forecast possible impacts on society and the concomitant impact that society may have on the new technology.
- Communicate their ideas about ICTs using multiple modes of communication including, written, oral, visual, and group communication styles.

Required Resources

- **Textbooks:**
 - Westerman, D., Bowman, N. D., & Lachlan, K. A. Introduction to Computer Mediated Communication: A Functional Approach, Kendall Hunt.
- **Email:** To obtain additional readings, instructions for assignments, additional materials for this course, and important announcements.

Course Policies

1. Attendance and Participation

This class is a community whose success is dependent on everyone's participation. Also, there is a strong correlation between class attendance and grades. Therefore, attendance is vital for your achievement.

You are expected to be in class and to participate fully every day so you can benefit as much as possible from this course. This means you are expected to (a) read and consider applications of the information *before* coming to class, (b) ask questions and/or make applications in small group and large group class discussion, and (c) work to facilitate classroom interaction.

In order to accomplish course goals, you need to be in class every day. If you are absent on a day when an assignment is due or an exam is given, you will be allowed to hand in or make-up that work *only* if the absence is **officially excused**. You will be asked to provide official written documentation for absences. If you know ahead of time that you will be absent from class without an excused absence, please discuss this with your instructor and turn in any assignments ahead of time. Excuses for university-sponsored activities must be made *prior* to such absences. **No make-up work is available for in-class exercises, workshops, or exams unless approved in advance by your instructor.**

It is *your responsibility* to monitor your attendance. If you are absent, it is *your responsibility* to ask a classmate what you missed.

Students are strongly encouraged to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed per university policy.

Note: Please reference the definition of excused absence in current edition of *Students Rights and Responsibilities* or on the web at <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/>.

Students who are frequently tardy or unprepared may be considered absent for the day. Your instructor reserves the right to add quizzes to the class agenda if too many class members appear to be unprepared. So be prepared and on time. Preparation involves not only reading but also making notes on the reading so that you are prepared to discuss issues in depth.

For any emergency situation that arises, **e-mail your instructor** as soon as you know about the situation.

Excused Absences

Students need to notify the professor of absences prior to class when possible. S.R. 5.2.4.2 defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) serious illness, (b) illness or death of family member, (c) University-related trips, (d) major religious holidays, and (e) other circumstances found to fit "reasonable cause for nonattendance" by the professor.

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 no later than the last day in the semester to add a class. Information regarding dates of major religious holidays may be obtained through the religious liaison, Mr. Jake Karnes ([859-257-2754](tel:859-257-2754)).

Verification of Absences

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 because of illness or death in the family. Appropriate notification of absences due to university-related trips is required prior to the absence.

Important Spring Semester Dates (<http://www.uky.edu/registrar/content/spring-2015-semester>)

January 21: Last day to add a class for the spring semester

February 4: Last day to drop a course without it appearing on the student’s transcript

February 11: Last day to officially withdraw from the university or reduce course load and receive a 50% refund

March 13: Midterm grades posted by this date

April 10: Last day to withdraw from the university or reduce course load.

May 11: Final grades posted by this date

2. Academic Integrity Policy

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: <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud>. A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty.

Part II of Student Rights and Responsibilities (<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>) 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 the question of plagiarism involving their own 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 anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgement of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else’s work, whether it be a published article, chapter of a book, a paper from a friend or some file, or something similar to this. 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.

When a student’s assignment involves research in outside sources of information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she 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 (Section 6.3.1).

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

3. Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see your instructor as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide your instructor with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, email address: jkarnes@email.uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

4. Military Members and Veterans

We recognize the complexities of being a member of the military community and also a student. If you are a member of the military or a military veteran or dependent, please inform your instructor if you are in need of special accommodations. Drill schedules, calls to active duty, mandatory training exercises, complications with GI Bill disbursement, and other unforeseen military and veteran related developments can complicate your academic life. If you are aware of a complication, we will work with you and put you in contact with university staff members who are trained to assist you. Please contact the Coordinator of the University of Kentucky Veterans Resource Center at [859-257-1148](tel:859-257-1148) for additional assistance. Visit <http://www.uky.edu/veterans> for more available resources.

5. Classroom Decorum

Ideally the classroom environment should be supportive and comfortable. Do not equate a relaxed atmosphere with a lack of academic standards. You are expected to be on time for class, be prepared for class and conduct yourself appropriately for a respectful academic environment. For example, frequent tardiness demonstrates a lack of respect for others and violates the values of this learning community. If you are late for class, enter the classroom with as little disruption as possible. Similarly, if you must leave the class early, leave with as little disruption to the activity in the class as possible. In case you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain class notes from your classmate(s).

Surfing the Internet unrelated to this course, homework for other courses, extended sidebar conversations, reading newspapers and magazines, etc. in class is distracting to other students and the professor, thus detracting from an effective learning environment. Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and students who behave in this way will stop this behavior or be removed from the class setting.

If I physically can see your cell phone you will lose 25 points each time I see it. If your cell phone goes off in class that will be an additional 50 points (even if it is in vibrate mode).

Food – If you bring food or drink to class, you are responsible for cleaning up spills and throwing wrappers/containers away. Do not leave your trash behind.

Important Notes

- Be sure to complete readings prior to the class meeting.
- You are responsible for all information, announcements, and changes addressed in classes and/or Blackboard.
- The instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus during the semester, if necessary.

6. Discussing Grades

Students who have grade or exam concerns must approach the professor during office hours, or through appointment. In order to give our full attention to grade issues, the professor will NOT discuss grades or exams before or after class. Once grades are posted online, you may visit the professor during office hours or by appointment to review your exam. Please contact the professor if you do not find your exam score posted. Grades will not be discussed over email or the telephone.

Students who wish to discuss grades or scores earned have one week from the date grades are posted to do so. Grades will not be addressed after this time period has expired. Students need to contact the professor for an appointment to discuss the issue. Students must bring a written explanation of their dispute with them to this appointment. If the matter is still unresolved, students need to contact the director of School of Information Science. Students that do not fulfill these requirements will not be addressed and the original grades will be final.

Course Activities and Assignments

1. Online Exams and Quizzes (2 exams at 100 points; 4 quizzes at 25 points = 300 points)

There will be two examinations and four quizzes to evaluate comprehension of theories and concepts addressed in the assigned readings and class discussions. Examinations may be comprised of multiple choice, true/false items, and matching questions. You are responsible for the material in both the textbook and lectures. Instructions will be given in class on how to complete the exam.

2. Discussion Leader (200 points)

As discussion leader to one class period your task is to present a recent case/situation/issue relevant to the class topic for the week. You will sign up for your week on Canvas during the first week of classes. The following guidelines are offered to help you in your role as class discussion leader. You should begin to prepare for this assignment as soon as you can.

1. Inform the professor at least two weeks prior to your discussion date, the current situation you would like to discuss and how it relates to the class. This must be a written statement of a least one paragraph. Failure to do this will result in a reduction in the grade earned.
2. Read the texts assigned on the syllabus. But note: you are not teaching the material read. Instead you are relating your case to what was read.
3. Organize and prepare your presentation/discussion. You may use whatever multimedia you choose, i.e. Prezi, PowerPoint, etc.
4. You will be graded on the relevance of the situation/case you chose to discuss to the overall topic for the day, connecting the situation and the topic for the week, and your ability to lead/spark discussion on the situation.

3. Interview (100 points)

Each student will complete a mock interview using the Career Center's InterviewStream program. Students will be graded on question choices, answers, and delivery. You will also write a critique of your interview.

4. Team Project (300 points)

In the beginning of the semester, students will be placed in teams that will research and examine an issue, innovation, policy or other relevant ICT matter. This research will culminate in both a paper or online project and a multimodal presentation of analysis to the class. The team project will require that the group synthesize class readings, discussions, and outside research to analyze possible impacts that the project focus could have on society, and how members of society may, in turn, impact it. All team must do a visual presentation of their findings.

5. Discussion Board/Participation (100)

Throughout the semester a discussion board question will be posted on Canvas. This may related to a guest speaker, reading, video or lecture. Points will be awarded as follows.

Discussion Grading Form

Criteria	Score
The student showed initiative, interpreted, synthesized, or integrated various threads; or redirected the discussion in ways that remained on-topic. The student contributed regularly.	5
The student contributed more than just facts, and responded to the implications of other students' ideas. The student's level of contribution was acceptable or of average value.	4
The student's contribution was acceptable and of average value.	3
The student's contribution was straight facts.	2
The student displayed a lack of preparation and/or insight in their posts. The student hardly contributed	1

Excessive attempts to move discussions off-topic and/or any rude or abrasive behavior toward other participants will result in a deduction in points.

Students will also receive points for in class discussion.

Extra credit opportunities may be made available at the discretion of the instructor.

To summarize, final course grades will be based on the total number of points accumulated:

1st Examination	100 pts
2nd Examination	100 pts
4 Quizzes @ 25 points	100 pts
Discussion Leader	200 pts
Interview	100 pts
Team Project	300 pts
<u>Discussion board/participation</u>	<u>100 pts</u>
Total =	1000 pts

Grading Scale

The following scale will be used to determine your course grade:

A	90-100%	(900-1000 pts)
B	80-89%	(800-899 pts)
C	70-79%	(700-799 pts)
D	60-69%	(600-699 pts)
E	0-59%	(599 pts and below)

Tentative and Subject to Change

UKC 380 Tentative Schedule for Tuesday/Thursday Class
Spring 2016
(changes may be made at instructor's discretion)

*indicates additional reading found on Canvas

Date	Topics	Assignments
Week 1		
R – 1/14	Introduction to ICT in Society	Read Syllabus
Week 2		
T – 1/19	Diffusion of Innovations	Chapter 1 and 2
R – 1/21	Technology as tools	Chapter 3 & 13
Week 3		
T – 1/26	Information Literacy	Chapter 4 Quiz 1 opens
R – 1/28	Information Literacy	*R1-canvas
Week 4		
T – 2/2	Politics & Activism	Chapter 5 and 10
R – 2/4	Politics & Activism	*R2-canvas
Week 5		
T – 2/9	Mediated Relationships	Chapters 7&8 Quiz 2 opens
R – 2/11	Mediated Relationships	*R3-canvas
Week 6		
T – 2/16	Group formation and Team project workshop	
R – 2/18	Exam 1	
Week 7		
T – 2/23	Immersion and Media	Chapter 6 and 11
R – 2/25	Immersion and Media	*R4-canvas
Week 8		
T – 3/1	Social Robotics	
R – 3/3	Social Robotics	*R5-canvas
Week 9		
T – 3/8	Video games	*R-6-canvas
R – 3/10	Technology and the Employment Process	*R7-canvas
Week 10		
T – 3/22	Technology and the Employment Process	
R – 3/24	Technology and the Employment Process	Quiz 3 opens
Week 11		
T – 3/29	Interview Group 1	
R – 3/31	Interview Group 2	
Week 12		

T – 4/5	The online economy	*R8-canvas
R – 4/7	The online economy	
Week 13		
T – 4/12	Health and Technology	
R – 4/14	Team work Day	
Week 14		
T – 4/19	Health and Technology	Chapter 9 Quiz 4 opens
R – 4/21	Team Presentations	
Week 15		
T – 4/26	Team Presentations	
R – 4/28	Team Presentations	
Week 16		
Finals Week	Exam 2 on Blackboard	Exam 2 on Canvas

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