

**ICT 300: ICT in Society (GCCR Course)**  
**T\R 3:30 – 4:45 | Spring 2017**

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**FACULTY INFORMATION**

Instructor: Renee Kaufmann, Ph.D.

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Office Hours (F2F & Virtual): T\R 1:00 – 3:00PM

Course Time: Online via Canvas



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**COURSE INFORMATION**

**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:

1. Identify major information-related social issues in contemporary society, and describe the various perspectives that characterize current debates on those issues.
2. 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.
3. Examine new ICTs and forecast possible impacts on society and the concomitant impact that society may have on the new technology.
4. Communicate their ideas about ICTs using multiple modes of communication including, written, oral, visual, and group communication styles.

**Required Resources**

- Westerman, D., Bowman, N. D., & Lachlan, K. A. Introduction to Computer Mediated Communication: A Functional Approach, Kendall Hunt.
- Additional readings will be posted on the course’s Canvas site.

## ICT 300 - Course Policies

### I. 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 makeup 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.

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/>

### Excused Absences

Students need to notify the professor of absences prior to class when possible. *Senate Rules 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. Two weeks prior to the absence is reasonable, but should not be given any later. Information regarding major religious holidays may be obtained through the Ombud (859-257-3737, [http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/ForStudents\\_ExcusedAbsences.php](http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/ForStudents_ExcusedAbsences.php)).

Students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed (excused) per University policy.

Per *Senate Rule 5.2.4.2*, students missing any graded work due to an excused absence are responsible: for informing the Instructor of Record about their excused absence within one week following the period of the excused absence (except where prior notification is required); and for making up the missed work. The professor must give the student an opportunity to make up the work and/or the exams missed due to an excused absence, and shall do so, if feasible, during the semester in which the absence occurred.

## **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 when feasible and in no case more than one week after the absence.

## **2. 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 at the following website: <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud>. 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.

*Senate Rules 6.3.1* (see <http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/> for the current set of *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.

### **3. 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. It is located on the corner of Rose Street and Huguelet Drive in the Multidisciplinary Science Building, Suite 407. You can reach them via phone at (859) 257-2754 and via email at [drc@uky.edu](mailto:drc@uky.edu). Their web address is <http://www.uky.edu/DisabilityResourceCenter>.

### **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 for additional assistance. Visit <http://www.uky.edu/veterans> for more available resources.

### **5. Student Evaluation**

Course grades are earned and are NOT negotiable. Final grades will be rounded (e.g., 89.5 is reported as an A but 89.4 will be reported as a B). Course grades will not be discussed via email or in class. Students must make an appointment or see me during office hours. Extra credit opportunities may be made available at the discretion of the instructor.

#### Grading Scale

90% – 100% = A (Exceptional Achievement)

80% – 89% = B (High Achievement)

70% – 79% = C (Average Achievement)

60% – 69% = D (Below Average)

0% – 59% = E (Failing)

### **6. Submission of Assignments**

All assignments, including papers, presentations, etc., should be submitted via Canvas. Assignments are due BEFORE class unless noted otherwise. Prepare and submit all assignments on time. Please submit assignments as doc, docx., or pdf files. Late work **IS NOT** accepted in this course.

### **7. Civility and Professionalism**

Students must learn to meet the standards of professional behavior and treat each other with respect. Critical inquiry is important, but attacking other persons, verbally or otherwise, is not accepted. Students must learn to receive and act on constructive criticism, be reliable and responsible, polite and respectable of others, and focus on producing above quality work.

Thus, everyone is expected to conduct themselves professionally during class. This includes arriving on time. Arriving late or using laptops or other devices for entertainment distracts everyone. Students who arrive at class more than ten minutes late, leave early without advance permission of an instructor, or use electronic devices may not receive attendance and/or participation credit for the day, at the discretion of the instructors. Professional behavior also entails being respectful of others and their opinions—even and especially when you do not agree with them.

### **8. Technology Policy**

The use of technology (laptops, smartphones, tablets, etc.) is not recommended. I will let you know in advance when technology will be required for class activities.

### **9. Email Policy**

Please give me up to 24 hours to reply to your emails, and I will do the same for you. Please remember to sign your email with your first and last name. I expect the language and structure of your emails to be professional. This includes punctuation, salutations/signature, etc.

### **10. Changes to the Syllabus**

This syllabus is subject to change as the semester progresses. I will communicate the changes in class and send an announcement on Canvas. The most current syllabus will always be available on Canvas.

## **ICT 300 - Assignments**

### **(1) Online Quizzes**

There will be four quizzes to evaluate comprehension of theories and concepts addressed in the assigned readings and class discussions. Quizzes 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 quizzes (5 quizzes at 10 points = 50 points).

### **(2) Research Presentations (n = 3 pages)**

(1) *Research Article* – You will read and prepare a one-page informative handout about a research article. You will present to your group members on that article for 10 minutes and respond to any questions they have. Submit your one-page handout on Canvas before class begins. You will complete this assignment at **two** different times throughout the semester. (RA denotes research article presentation day).

(2) *ICTs in the News* – You will find one article from the news or popular media source that focuses on ICTs and society. You will lead a small group discussion using this article as a discussion piece for 10 minutes. You are also responsible for a one-page rationale where you discuss: (a) where you got the article (source); (b) explain the author's credentials; (c) how you know the article is credible. You should submit the article, your discussion questions, and your rationale to Canvas before the class begins.

### **(3) ICT in Review Group Poster Presentation (n = 1 page)**

A group of 5 students will choose an ICT tool (from the list below) that they will use and engage with for the rest of the semester. You and your group will use the tool to engage in

and outside of class communication. The first assignment the group is responsible for is a ICT in Review. The group is responsible for conducting both primary and secondary research to explore the tool.

You and your group will be responsible for:

- (1) A present a 5-10 minute poster presentation to their peers (each member will speak at least 1-2 minutes; you will be graded as a group on the presentation and poster. Rubric will be provided).
- (2) The group will also submit a 6-8 page paper (must include cover page and references – those are not included in the total page count; each member must write at least 1 page).

The presentation and the paper must address the following:

- 1) History - Describe the purpose of the ICT tool and who created it. (at least 1 page)
- 2) History - Explain how the tool have evolved since its conception. (at least 1 page)
- 3) Describe the past and current demographics of the user/audience. (at least 1 page)
- 4) Describe the functions of the tool. (at least 1 page)
- 5) Make a list of the pros and cons for implications on society. (at least 1 page)
- 6) Summarize ONE research article that examines your chosen tool. (at least 1 page)

List of ICT Tools:

1. Firefox → Netscape
2. Email → “Graphic/Text Based Email”
3. Twitter → IRC
4. Messenger → AIM → Bulletin Boards
5. Cellphones

#### **(4) Develop a New ICT Tool (n = 5 pages)**

As a group, you will need to create or reconceptualize the assigned ICT tool. This project will need to incorporate ONE theory we’ve discussed in class, primary and secondary resources (minimum of 10 scholarly journals), and you and your group’s own anecdotal experiences. Throughout the semester, think about your own encounters with the ICT tool that you and your group have used this semester. You are answering this questions: How would you change the tool to improve the communication or information process? How would those changes impact society?

This project will entail:

- 1) Group Paper (25 pages; each group member is responsible for one section = at least 5 pages – no more than 6 pages)
- 2) 25-minute presentation to the class “selling” or “persuading” the new tool; each group member should speak for at least 5 minutes (no more than 6 minutes).

Outline for Paper:

- (1) History of Tool (at least 5 pages)
- (2) Current Uses and Functions of tool (at least 5 pages)
- (3) Changes to Tool: Informed by Theory (at least 5 pages)
- (4) Changes to Tool: Informed by Group’s Experience (at least 5 pages)
- (5) Tool’s Impact on Society (at least 5 pages)
- (+) Cover page, abstract, and references (not included in total page count)

**(5) Reflections (n = 7 pages)**

At the beginning of the semester, each student will write a 3 page paper reflecting on the current experience with ICTs. Students will need to provide: (1) their own definition of ICT, (2) what ICTs they use in their personal life, (3) what ICTs they use in their professional life, and (4) how they have seen ICTs impact the people around them. (Reflection 1)

At end of the semester, each group member will have the opportunity to evaluate their teammates for their contributions to the course and the group projects with a 4 page reflection paper. These will need to be turned in BEFORE class begins the day they are designated to be due. (Reflection 2).

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

Quizzes (5 X 10)	50
Research Articles (2 X25)	50
ICT in the News	30
ICT in Review	100
New ICT Tool	250
Reflections (20,30)	50
Total = 530	

**GCCR Requirements**

In terms of curriculum, the GCCR guidelines stipulate these major requirements:

**GCCR#1:** One or more written assignments in English (the language) that total to at least 4,500 words (the equivalent of 15 pages of double-spaced, typewritten text);

**GCCR#2:** Either an oral assignment, in which students must give a presentation at least 10 minutes long, or a visual assignment, in which students create at least one significant visual/electronic artifact (e.g., a web site or video presentation);

**GCCR#3:** An assignment that requires the student to demonstrate information literacy in the discipline;

**GCCR#4:** Courses must incorporate a draft/feedback/revision process on GCCR assignments for writing and for oral or visual work;

**GCCR#5:** Satisfy the GCCR, students must earn an average grade of C or better on the designated Composition and Communication intensive assignments produced in any given course designated as fulfilling some or all of the GCCR.

<b>GCCR Requirements</b>	GCCR#1	GCCR#2	GCCR#3	GCCR#4	GCCR#5
	All written assignments total a minimum 16 pages	ICT in Review Research Articles	ICTs in the News	New ICT Tool	Final grade

## Tentative Schedule: Spring 2017

Note: + readings on Canvas means EVERYONE has a reading to complete for that day

Week and Date	Topic	Assignment Due that Day
<b>Week 1</b>		
R, 1/12	Introduction to ICT in Society	Read the syllabus
<b>Week 2</b>		
T, 1/17	Past, Present, and Future ICTs	Chapters 1 & 2 Reflection Assignment #1 due
R, 1/19	Technology as Tools *assigned groups	Chapter 3
<b>Week 3</b>		
T, 1/24	Information Literacy in the Digital Age	Chapter 4 Quiz #1 due 11:59 PM
R, 1/26	<b>ICT in Review Presentations</b>	<b>ICT in Review Presentations</b>
<b>Week 4</b>		
T, 1/31	Theories of ICT	*Print out handout for class to take notes.
R, 2/1	Theories of ICT	
<b>Week 5</b>		
T, 2/7	ICT in Society	(RA) +readings on Canvas Quiz #2 due 11:59 PM
R, 2/9	ICT for Development	(RA) There's an app for that.... +readings on Canvas
<b>Week 6</b>		
T, 2/14	Big Data in Society	Chapter 10 (RA) Big Data
R, 2/16	History of Openness Accessibility	(RA) +readings on Canvas
<b>Week 7</b>		
T, 2/21	Mediated Relationships	Chapters 7 & 8
R, 2/23	ICT and Learning	Chapter 6 +readings on Canvas Quiz #3 due 11:59 PM
<b>Week 8</b>		
T, 2/28	ICT and Change	Chapter 9 (RA)
R, 3/2	Health and Technology	Chapter 11 (RA) +readings on Canvas
<b>Week 9</b>		
T, 3/7	Technology and Identity	(RA) +readings on Canvas

R, 3/9	The Dark side of ICTs and Knowledge	(RA) Chapter 13 +readings on Canvas Quiz #4 due 11:59 PM
<b>Week 10</b>		
T,3/14	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK
R,3/16	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK
<b>Week 11</b>		
T,3/21	Social Media Activism/Politics	(RA) The Google vote... +readings on Canvas
R,3/23	Peer-Review I Day	Bring a draft of your section of the final paper/ppt to class – print out a copy!
<b>Week 12</b>		
T,3/28	Creation Myths	(RA) +readings on Canvas
R,3/30	Group Check-in (work day)	Bring laptops to class (or request one). Quiz #5 due 11:59 PM
<b>Week 13</b>		
T,4/4	Peer-Review II Day	Bring a “final” version of your section of the final paper/ppt to class – print out a copy!
R,4/6	Rehearsal Day	
<b>Week 14</b>		
T,4/11	<b>Presentations</b>	<b>New ICT Tool Paper and Presentation due for everyone!</b>
R,4/13	<b>Presentations</b>	
<b>Week 15</b>		
T,4/18	<b>Presentations</b>	
R,4/20	Where are we going with technology?	+readings on Canvas Kevin Kelly on —the next 5,000 days of the web. (Will watch video together in class.)
<b>Week 16</b>		
T,4/25	<b>ICT in the News Presentations</b>	<b>ICT in the News Presentations</b>
R,4/27	Reflection Day	Reflection Assignment #2 due