

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICTs) IN SOCIETY
Information Communication Technology (ICT) 600
FALL 2018

Monday, 6:00-9:00PM, Lucille Little Library Room 311

Instructor: Nicholas Proferes, PhD
Office: 352 Little Library
Office Phone: (859) 218-3417
Email: nproferes@uky.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday, 2:00-4:00pm & by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines a wide variety of issues that relate to the roles of information communication technologies (ICTs) in political, social, psychological, and cultural processes in community contexts, both physical and virtual. In so doing, this course reviews such topics as information communication technologies (ICTs), including social media and mobile technologies, and their relation to governments, political parties, nonprofit/voluntary organizations, social movements, news media organizations, citizen journalism, public sphere, social capital, deliberation, and political/civic/community engagement. As such, this course sheds light on the democratic functioning of the information communication technologies (ICTs) for a healthy community to operate at local, regional, national, and global levels.

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

The purpose of this course is to familiarize you with various theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches at multiple levels regarding information communication technologies (ICTs), communities, and democracy with special emphasis on social media. You will be able to critically discuss current issues and problems in connection with the diverse theoretical and methodological understandings. Then, you will conduct various research projects regarding information communication technologies (ICTs), communities, and democracy, paying particular attention to the roles of technology in democratic societies.

At the completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a broad understanding of the way the relationship between technology and society has been studied in information science;
- Explain cross-disciplinary debates about the impact of technology on democracy;
- Critically analyze literature relating to the study of technology and communities;
- Apply concepts and critiques from information studies perspectives to contemporary debates about ICTs in society;
- Describe the interrelationships among key ICT issues such as the digital divide, community health, and civic participation;
- Evaluate both opportunities and risks inherent in new ICT deployment;
- Propose approaches to social challenges raised by the introduction of ICTs into communities.

This course is designed as a *primer*. Thus, students will be exposed to a number of issues and literature related to the interconnections between technology and society. Given the breadth and depth of a number of these issue areas, it will not be possible to cover all aspects of the issues throughout the course.

REQUIREMENTS

Response Paper

- Throughout the course, you will write 6 *bi-weekly* response papers.
- Response papers will be at least two pages in length, double spaced, and will include your thoughts and comments on the readings, as well as an effort to connect the readings to current news. Further details about the response papers will be provided in the class.
- Response papers must be submitted by Sunday night at 11:59 P.M. via Canvas (see Assignment Schedule for details).

Discussion & Readings Leaders

- Throughout the course, you will participate in discussions with your fellow students *every week*.
- Once during the semester, you must be lead discussant for one of the readings.
- The lead discussant's responsibilities are to provide the class a written summary of the reading, provide a summary of the work and a list of questions that they believe the readings brings up. The discussant will then lead us through the questions they have identified.
- Summary of the readings and the questions must be posted to Canvas by Sunday at 11:59 P.M., (the day before the class meets).

Prospectus

- During the course, you will write a **short 2-3 page prospectus** for your term paper.
- The prospectus will be due **Sunday, Oct 21st, by 11:59 P.M.**

Term Paper

- As you develop your term paper, you will consult with me in person during my office hours and/or by appointment.
- You will write a research proposal, which includes a problem statement, thorough literature review, research questions, and research methods. However, you can also write a research paper, which follows a journal article style with results and conclusions.
- Specific formats and guidelines will be given as you develop your projects.
- The term paper should have 10-15 pages excluding references, tables, figures, and appendix.
- Finally, your term paper is due **by Wednesday, December 12th, by 11:59 P.M.**

Paper Format

- All papers (response papers, prospectus, and term papers) should be double spaced and typed in Times New Roman with 12 point font size.
- In addition, all papers should have one inch margins on all four sides of the papers.
- Prior to paper submissions, it is **strongly recommended** for you to meet with writing instructors in the University of Kentucky Writing Center

(<http://www.uky.edu/AS/English/wc/>).

Although there is no required academic writing style, it is **strongly recommended** for you to use the American Psychological Association (APA) (6th Ed.) style.

GRADING

Weekly Response papers: 30% (5% each)

Weekly Participation: 15%

Lead Discussion: 15%

Term Paper Prospectus: 10%

Final Paper: 30%

Final course grades will be assigned as follows:

Course Grading

90 – 100% = A

80 – 89% = B

70 – 79% = C

60 – 69% = D

Below 60% = E

COURSE MATERIALS

All course materials will be made available on Canvas.

Data Sources

For your term paper, you may consider referring to secondary data sources as follows:

- Pew Center for People and the Press: <http://www.people-press.org>
- Social Science Data Analysis Network: <http://www.ssdan.net>
- General Social Survey: <http://webapp.icpsr.umich.edu/GSS/>
- National Election Studies: <http://www.umich.edu/~nes/>
- The Political Communication Lab at Stanford: <http://pcl.stanford.edu/>
- US Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov/>
- United States of Department of Agriculture: <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome>
- Internet World Stats: <http://www.internetworldstats.com/>
- The Social N' Agricultural Resource Lab (“SNARL”):
<http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl/KentuckyByTheNumbers/KYBTNIndex.htm>
- Kentucky State Data Center: <http://ksdc.louisville.edu/>
- Social Sciences Teaching And Research Statistics, Center for Statistical Computing Support, University of Kentucky: <http://www.uky.edu/ComputingCenter/SSTARS/>
- Digital Media and Civic Engagement Project: Consult with your instructor

Journals

- Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication (JCMC): <http://jcmc.indiana.edu/>
- Mass Communication and Society: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/HMCS>
- New Media & Society: <http://newmediaandsociety.com/>
- The Information Society: <http://www.indiana.edu/~tisj/>

- Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology (JASIST): [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)2330-1643](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)2330-1643)
- Journal of Communication: <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journal.asp?ref=0021-9916&site=1>
- International Journal of Communication: <http://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc>
- Journal of Community Informatics: <http://ci-journal.net/index.php/ciej>
- Political Communication: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/10584609.asp>
- Journalism of Broadcasting and Electronic Media: <http://www.beaweb.org/jobem/info.html>
- First Monday: <http://www.firstmonday.org/>
- Electronic Journal of Communication: <http://www.cios.org/www/ejcmmain.htm>
- Global Media Journal: <http://lass.calumet.purdue.edu/cca/gmj/index.htm>
- Television and New Media: <http://tvn.sagepub.com/>
- Information, Communication and Society: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/1369118x.html>
- Social Movement Studies: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14742837.asp>
- International Journal of Public Opinion Research: <http://ijpor.oxfordjournals.org>
- International Journal of Press-Politics: <http://hij.sagepub.com>

COURSE POLICIES

- You are required to read all of the readings listed.
- You will learn from various interactions between instructor and students. You are strongly suggested to work together with your instructor and peer groups in order to develop your research projects.
- Academic integrity is essential. Any kind of plagiarism or cheating will not be accepted and tolerated on your assignments. For more information, visit the Ombud Website, <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud>

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).

For the withdrawal recommendation (students missing a majority of coursework, over one-fifth), there are three options for wording which meet the Senate rules:

Option #1:

Students are strongly encouraged to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the scheduled classes for the semester are missed per university policy. Please reference the definition of excused absences in the current edition of *Student Rights and Responsibilities* or on the web at

[http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/rules_regulations/Rules%20Versions/MASTER%20RULES %20from%20February%202012_clean.pdf](http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/rules_regulations/Rules%20Versions/MASTER%20RULES%20from%20February%202012_clean.pdf)

Option #2 (quoting the rule):

If a student has excused absences in excess of one-fifth of the class contact hours for that course, a student shall have the right to petition for a "W", and the Instructor of Record may require the student to petition for a "W" or take an "I" in the course. [US: 2/9/87; RC: 11/20/87]"

Option #3:

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.

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.

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. Their web address is

<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/DisabilityResourceCenter/>.

Policies concerning academic integrity, excused absences and academic accommodations due to disability are available online at:

<https://ci.uky.edu/sis/sites/default/files/policies.pdf>

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION & RESOURCES Information Technology Customer Service Center (UKIT)

<http://www.uky.edu/UKIT/>; 859-218-4357

Library Services & Distance Learning Services

<http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS>

- Carla Cantagallo, DL Librarian
- Local phone number: (859) 257-0500, ext. 2171; long-distance phone #: (800) 828-0439

(option #6)

- Email: dllservice@email.uky.edu
- DL Interlibrary Loan Service:
http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/libpage.php?lweb_id=253&llib_id=16

For more resources about online classes and student resources, visit

<http://www.uky.edu/ukonline/>

The School of Information Science has a page with a comprehensive list of technology resources here: <http://ci.uky.edu/sis/students/techtips>

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.

COURSE CALENDAR (Readings should be finished before class session).

Please note, readings may be subject to change with advanced notice.

Week 1 (Aug 20): Classes start Wednesday Aug 22. Since this is a Monday class, we do not meet during Week 1 of the Academic Semester.

Week 2 (Aug 27): Course Overview and Q &A

- Introduce Yourself
- Review Syllabus
- Discuss: Edwards, P. N. (2010). How to read a book, v6.0.

Week 3 (Sep 3): No class – Labor Day

Week 4 (Sep 10): Are We an Information Society?

- Karvalics, L. Z. (2007). Information Society—what is it exactly? (The meaning, history and conceptual framework of an expression). Information Society.
- Selections from: Masuda, Y. (1980). The information society as post-industrial society.
- Selections from Webster, F. (2014). Theories of the information society. Routledge.
- News article: “[Pushing The Ethical Boundaries Of Big Data: A Look At China's Social Credit Scoring System](#)”

Week 5 (Sep 17): Technology and Social Change: Who is in the driver’s seat?

- Heilbroner, R. L. (1967). Do machines make history?. *Technology and culture*, 8(3), 335-345.
- Bimber, B. (1994). Three faces of technological determinism.
- Williams, R., & Edge, D. (1996). The social shaping of technology. *Research policy*, 25(6), 865-899.
- News article: [“Humanity Confronts A Defining Question: How Will AI Change Us?”](#)

Week 6 (Sep 24): Does Technology Have Politics?

- Winner, L. (1980). Do artifacts have politics?. *Daedalus*, 121-136.
- Joerges, B. (1999). Do politics have artefacts?. *Social studies of science*, 29(3), 411-431.
- Friedman, B., & Nissenbaum, H. (1996). Bias in computer systems. *ACM Transactions on Information Systems (TOIS)*, 14(3), 330-347.
- News article: [“Facebook Lets Advertisers Exclude Users By Race”](#)

Week 7 (Oct 1): Technology and Power: Guest Lecturer: Dr. Bryce Newell

- Selections from: Braman, S. (2009). *Change of State: Information, Policy, and Power*. MIT Press.
- Spears, R., & Lea, M. (1994). Panacea or panopticon? The hidden power in computer-mediated communication. *Communication Research*, 21(4), 427-459.
- Monahan, T. (2006). Counter-surveillance as political intervention?. *Social Semiotics*, 16(4), 515-534.
- Newell, B. C. (2014). Technopolicing, surveillance, and citizen oversight: A neorepublican theory of liberty and information control. *Government Information Quarterly*, 31(3), 421-431.
- News Article: [“Inside China’s Dystopia Dreams: A.I., Shame, And Lots of Cameras”](#)

Week 8 (Oct 8): Technology and Community

- Wellman, B., & Gulia, M. (2018). Net-surfers don’t ride alone: Virtual communities as communities. In *Networks in the global village* (pp. 331-366). Routledge.
- Fischer, C. S. (1997). Technology and community: Historical complexities. *Sociological Inquiry*, 67(1), 113-118.
- Bimber, B. (1998). The Internet and political transformation: Populism, community, and accelerated pluralism. *Polity*, 31, 133-60.
- News Article: [“What Good is Community When Someone Else Makes All The Rules?”](#)

Week 9 (Oct 15): The Public Sphere Perspective

- Shirky, C. (2011). The political power of social media: Technology, the public sphere, and political change. *Foreign affairs*, 28-41.
- Friedland, L. A., Hove, T., & Rojas, H. (2006). The networked public sphere. *Javnost-The Public*, 13(4), 5-26.
- Fuchs, C. (2015). Social media and the public sphere. *TripleC: Open Access Journal for a Global Sustainable Information Society*, 12(1), 57-101.
- News Article: [“Twitter is wondering whether or not Twitter is bad for society”](#)

Week 10 (Oct 22): Social Capital and ICTs

- Ellison, N. B., Steinfield, C., & Lampe, C. (2007). The benefits of Facebook “friends:” Social capital and college students’ use of online social network sites. *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 12(4), 1143-1168.
- Lampe, C., Vitak, J., & Ellison, N. (2013). Users and nonusers: Interactions between levels of adoption and social capital. In Proceedings of the 2013 conference on Computer supported cooperative work (pp. 809-820). ACM.
- Ellison, N. B., Vitak, J., Gray, R., & Lampe, C. (2014). Cultivating social resources on social network sites: Facebook relationship maintenance behaviors and their role in social capital processes. *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 19(4), 855-870.
- News Article: “[How Your Social Network Could Save You From A Disaster](#)”

Week 11 (Oct 29): Network Theory - Guest Lecturer: Forthcoming

- Wellman, B. (1999). The network community: An introduction. In B. Wellman (Ed.), *Networks in the global village: Life in contemporary communities* (pp. 1-47). Boulder, CO: Westview Press.
- Castells, M. (2002). Virtual communities or network society? In M. Castells, *The Internet galaxy: Reflections on the Internet, business, and society* (pp. 116-136). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Conover, M., Ratkiewicz, J., Francisco, M. R., Gonçalves, B., Menczer, F., & Flammini, A. (2011). Political polarization on Twitter. *ICWSM*, 133, 89-96.
- News Article: “[2.7 billion tweets confirm: Echo chambers on Twitter are very real](#)”

Week 12 (Nov 5): ICTs & The Digital Divide and Inequality

- van Dijk, J., & Hacker, K. (2003). The digital divide as a complex and dynamic phenomenon. *The Information Society*, 19(4), 315-326.
- Hale, T. M., Cotton, S. R., Drentea, P., & Goldner, M. (2010). Rural-urban differences in general and health-related Internet use. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 53, 1304-1325.
- Bailey, A. (2016). Community bridging through ICTs: Seeking to overcome digital and community divides. *The Journal of Community Informatics*, 12(1). 69-89.
- News Article: “[Could 5G Be the Answer to Rural Connectivity in Kentucky?](#)”

Week 13 (Nov 12): ICTs and Communities - Guest Lecture: Dr. David Nemer

- Kavanaugh, A., Carroll, J. M., Rosson, M. B. et al. (2005). Community networks – Where offline communities meet online. *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 10(4). <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1083-6101.2005.tb00266.x/abstract>
- Pinkett, R. (2003). Community technology and community building: Early results from the creating community connections project. *The Information Society*, 19, 365-379.
- Driskell, L. L. & Lyon, L. (2002). Are virtual communities true communities? Examining the environments and elements of community. *City & Community*, 1(4), 373-390.
- Readings from Guest Lecturer Forthcoming.
- News Article: TBD

Week 14 (Nov 19): Communication Infrastructure Theory

- Kim, Y.-C., & Ball-Rokeach, S. J. (2006). Civic engagement from a communication infrastructure perspective. *Communication Theory*, 16(2), 173-197.

- Matei, S., & Ball-Rokeach, S. (2003). The Internet in the communication infrastructure of urban residential communities: Macro- or mesolinkage? *Journal of Communication*, 53 (4), 642-657.
- Chourabi, H., Nam, T., Walker, S., Gil-Garcia, J. R., Mellouli, S., Nahon, K., ... & Scholl, H. J. (2012, January). Understanding smart cities: An integrative framework. In *System Science (HICSS), 2012 45th Hawaii International Conference on* (pp. 2289-2297).
- News Article: TBD

Week 15 (Nov 26): ICTs and Civic Participation

- Selections from: Schrock, A. (2018). Civic Tech: Making Technology Work for People
- Gordon, E. & Manosevitch, E. (2010). Augmented deliberation: Merging physical and virtual interaction to engage communities in urban planning. *New Media & Society*, 13 (1), 75-95.
- Friedland, L. (2014). Civic communication in a networked society: Seattle's emergent ecology. In J. Girouard & C. Sirianni (Eds.), *Varieties of Civic Innovation: Deliberative, Collaborative, Network, and Narrative Approaches* (pp. 92-126). Nashville: University of Vanderbilt Press.
- News Article: "[What's New in Civic Tech: Local Groups Prep for National Day of Civic Hacking](#)"

Week 16 (Dec 3): ICTs and Citizen Journalism

- Wall, M. (2015). Citizen Journalism: A Retrospective on what we know, an agenda for what we don't. *Journalism Practice*.
- Al-Ghazzi, O. (2014). "Citizen Journalism" in the Syrian Uprising: Problematizing Western Narratives in a Local Context. *Communication Theory*, 24, 435-454.
- Bruns, A., Highfield, T., & Lind, R. A. (2012). Blogs, Twitter, and breaking news: The produsage of citizen journalism. *Producing theory in a digital world: The intersection of audiences and production in contemporary theory*, 80(2012), 15-32.
- News Article: TBD

Weekly Assignment Deadlines

Week	Note
1	We do not meet this week
2	Happy Semester!
3	We do not meet this week.
4	Response Papers and Discussions Due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Sep 16
5	
6	Response Papers and Discussions Due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Sep 30
7	
8	Response Papers and Discussions Due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Oct 14
9	Prospectus Due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Oct 21
10	Response Papers and Discussions Due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Oct 28
11	
12	Response Papers and Discussions Due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Nov 11
13	
14	Response Papers and Discussions Due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Nov 25
15	
16	Term Paper DUE by Wednesday, December 12th, by 11:59 P.M.