

COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

Prepared by: Judith Stiers, M.A.
Revised By: J. Stiers
Status: Permanent
Effective: Fall 2004

December 4, 2002
Fall 2004

A. Identification:

1. Subject Area: Humanities (HUM)
2. Course Number: 205
3. Course Title: Technology and Human Values
4. Credit Hours: 3
5. Course Description: Technology and Human values explores the relationship between technological development and individual and social values in the Western World from ancient times through the present. Includes technologies connected with a variety of areas, such as medicine, printing, agricultural production, work, ethics, art and architecture. Pre/CO-requisite: ENG 102. General Education: Arts and Humanities. Special Requirements: Intensive Writing and Critical Inquiry; Contemporary Global/International Awareness or Historical Awareness. Three lecture.

B. Course Goals:

To provide students with a basic understanding of the ways in which our technological society impacts the development of human values, in contemporary society, as well as from an historical perspective. This course is concerned with the problems of human relationships with machines and other beings in a self-created technological habitat. To examine the impact of consumerist/technological approaches to life on cultural diversity, both from a local, and a global perspective. A further objective of this course is to help the student improve skills in reading, writing, analysis and critical thinking. Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate these skills and abilities on writing assignments throughout the course of the semester, as well as on the final project.

C. Course Outcomes: Students will:

1. gather, interpret and evaluate evidence;
2. develop skills in analyzing and synthesizing information;
3. provide an environment which values factual and rational interchange;
4. develop skills which will enable them to become aware of faulty reasoning;
5. develop skills in flexible and creative thinking;
6. successfully complete the writing component to pass the class;
7. pursue the above objectives through all of the following:
 - a. frequent discussions encouraging students to develop skills in critical listening, thinking, and interacting;
 - b. written discourse both in class and out of class;
 - c. at least one oral presentation;
 - d. writing assignments of increasing difficulty;
 - e. a minimum of 2500 instructor-evaluated written words, including at least one paper of 1500 words, with two or more additional papers totaling at least 1000 words;
 - f. at least one paper revised according to instructor comments and suggestions.
8. describe the development of selected technologies over time, and the impact of these developments on humanistic values;
9. employ a variety of approaches to the discussion of issues surrounding the development and implementation of selected technologies;
10. identify and analyze, orally and in writing, the moral and ethical considerations that may accompany technological innovation;

11. explain connections between selected technologies and the effects they produce on humans as individuals, and in a social context;
12. describe how technological innovation can change human behavior and human values;
13. describe ways in which technology impacts the non-human world;
14. outline some of the ways in which technology affects students' own lives;
15. organize information from multiple sources into a unified presentation;
16. identify and compare different points of view or perspectives regarding specific technological innovations;
17. design a project or presentation documenting the social and ethical implications of a selected technological development;
18. describe how technology can produce unintended consequences;
19. and analyze sociological, ethical, historical and cultural aspects of the works.

D. Course Outcomes Assessment will include:

1. critical thinking skills rubric applied to at least one major essay;
2. and at least one oral presentation.

E. Course Content will include:

1. The development, over time, of a variety of technologies, such as communications, medicine, printing, agricultural production, work, ethics, art and architecture;
2. historical and contemporary view of the consequences of technological development on social institutions such as family, community, education and work;
3. current technological development and its relation to contemporary social values;
4. impact of technological development on aesthetics and epistemology;
5. impact of technological development on the rise of existential thought in the 19th and 20th century;
6. relationships among society, values and technology;
7. impact of technology on individual lives;
8. and impact of technology on organizational structures, and resulting changes in communication.