UNIV 2350: INTERDISCIPLINARY TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY
Cyber U: Technology and Higher Education
TR 9:00a.m. - 10:20a.m; 90% Online
Liberal Arts Building (LART) 206

PLEASE NOTE: THIS CLASS IS 90% ONLINE and will meet Tuesday, January 21st, Tuesday, March 4th and Tuesday, May 13th. All other time will consist of on-line and group activities.

Instructor: Sycora A. Wilson-James
Phone: (915) 747-6088
Email: sajames@utep.edu or Blackboard email

Office Hours: Online MTWR 12:30p.m. – 2:30p.m.

Peer Leader: Roxana Rodriguez
Phone: _____________________________
Email: rjrodriguez5@miners.utep.edu

Office Hours: _________________

COURSE THEME
This course will address the role technology plays in shaping higher education. Students will explore the history of technology in higher education; discuss how technology affects the cost of education, some of the latest uses of technology in the classroom, privacy of information, and who is held accountable for the wealth of data generated and collected on a college campus.

COURSE GOALS & EXPECTATIONS
Goal 1. Enhance students’ ability to assess technology
Goal 2. Develop and promote student teamwork
Goal 3. Enable students to relate technology to community context
Goal 4. Advance students’ communication skills using technology
Goal 5. Engage students in exploring the ethics of technology.

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Articulate advantages and disadvantages of technology in higher education
- Demonstrate the ability to take advantage of positive group dynamics and to minimize the effects of negative group dynamics
- Demonstrate the use of UTEP Library and electronic media sources to conduct research
- Demonstrate the ability to select the appropriate method of electronic communication for the target audience and situation
- Identify the social, economic and/or environmental benefits of select technology and propose feasible solutions or suggestion(s) to improve access and use of technology in higher education

Blackboard: Blackboard Learn is the online course management system we will use throughout the semester. In Blackboard you can view the syllabus, your grades, and other supplemental material related to the course. You can also send e-mails to your classmates, peer leader and instructor. Blackboard is accessible from your page on My.Utep.edu, using your UTEP email user id and your Goldmine password. Call the Help Desk if you need help with access.
Email account: Use your UTEP email account or use email through Blackboard

Exams: There will be NO exams.

Required Texts: There is no required text for this course. All class materials will be posted on Blackboard.

COURSE POLICIES

Accommodations Policy: If you have or suspect a disability and need accommodation, you should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 747-5148 or go to Room 302 Union East. For more information on services provided by CASS visit http://sa.utep.edu/cass

Attendance Policy: To be successful in this course, it is imperative that you participate in all in-class meetings. Because this course is 90% online, points are based on attendance for Tuesday, January 21st, Tuesday, March 4th, and Tuesday, May 13th. Class meets in Liberal Arts Building (LART) 206.

Cheating/plagiarism Policy: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording, it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you have done for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, as set out in the Handbook of Operating Procedure (Section 1.3.1 Scholastic Dishonesty), http://admin.utep.edu/hoop

Course Drop Policy: Any missed postings and responses will negatively impact your grade. Upon your fourth (4) missed individual discussion posting, you will be dropped from the course. Withdrawal: The last day to drop a course with a grade of “W” is Friday, April 4th. A “W” is not calculated into your grade point average, but it does count as a course attempt. After, April 4th a grade of “F” will be given for dropped courses.

Deadline Policy: All on-line assignments are due by 10:00p.m, on the deadline date. Any late assignments will be penalized 10% of the total possible points for each day late. See course calendar below.

Grading criteria:
900-810 A
809-720 B
719-630 C
629-540 D
539-below F

Note: A grade of “C” or better must be earned to pass the course

Grading breakdown: possible points 900
Syllabus quiz 10pts
Discussion Board postings
   12 Individual postings (25pts each) 300pts
   24 Response postings (5pts each) 240pts
Film Review 50pts
Final Project
   Individual Annotated Bibliography 40pts
   Group Presentation Outline 60pts
   Final Group Presentation 200pts
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Discussion Board: Articles related to the weekly topic will be available Thursday of each week on Blackboard. You will read articles and discuss the readings through the Blackboard discussion board.

Once per week, you will write at least 200 words in your discussion posting in response to guided questions. You will also reply (at least 50 words each response) to the entry of two of your fellow classmates per week. You are expected to bring your experience and knowledge into the weekly discussion. We are interested in your thoughts and ideas as they relate to the weekly topic, not a summary of the readings! You are expected to read the posted articles and think about the four criteria listed below as you read each article. Reading the articles with these four questions in mind will help formulate your individual response to the guided question:

- What Assumptions does the author of the text hold?
- What do you Agree with in the text?
- What do you want to Argue with in the text?
- What parts of the text do you want to Aspire to?

The deadlines for postings and replies are listed in the course calendar and will be posted on Blackboard. All postings and responses are due by 10:00pm on the days listed in the course calendar.

Film Review—Essay: You will view a film on Blackboard and write a critical essay discussing the themes as they relate to this course.

You may discuss the film with your classmates (this is encouraged), but each person must write his or her essay independently. Take notes during the screening and pay close attention to the theme of the film.

The purpose of the critical essay is to make connections between the film’s depiction of technology and the role of technology in our culture in regards to the weekly topic. The essay should include the themes and issues discussed in class and to the guided question(s). You may NOT include a plot summary. The essay must be typed, double-spaced, 500 words in length and posted to Blackboard by 10:00pm on the day listed in the course calendar.

Final Project—Group Technology Presentation: The final project for this class will be a group presentation related to technology and higher education. Groups should choose one topic that interests all of them. Be creative! You will explore this topic and see how it impacts higher education or professional career and do a cost/benefit analysis of the chosen technology. You will choose a topic early in the semester, do research, and create a presentation related to your chosen topic, based on the past, present and future of the topic. All students are expected to meet with course instructor on Tuesday, March 4th, before Spring Break, to discuss group project. See course calendar for meeting date. Final project guidelines will be provided.

If you need help designing your presentation, both the instructor and the peer leader will be happy to guide you. If needed, we can arrange for training sessions in using computer-presentation software (DO NOT wait until the last minute to ask for help). Your presentation must include text, images, Flash animation, sounds, video, etc. Your classmates will see your presentation. You will be graded on content, creativity and probable use in higher education or career choice.
All members of your group will be expected to contribute to the final and also to verbally explain their section of the presentation. Anonymous evaluations will be handed out at the final so that you can offer feedback on the performance of your group members.

**Final Project assignment due dates**
- Individual Annotated Bibliography due Tuesday, April 1\textsuperscript{st}, 10:00PM
- Group Presentation Outline due Tuesday, April 22\textsuperscript{nd}, 10:00PM
# COURSE CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of (Dates)</th>
<th>Themes</th>
<th>Individual Postings due by Tuesday 10:00p.m.</th>
<th>Response to Classmates due by Thursday 10:00p.m.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 21-25 (JANUARY 21st)</td>
<td>Introductions &amp; Course Expectations</td>
<td>Saturday, January 25th</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 26-Feb. 1</td>
<td>What is Technology?</td>
<td>28-Jan</td>
<td>30-Jan</td>
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<td>February 2-8</td>
<td>Cost of Technology</td>
<td>4-Feb</td>
<td>6-Feb</td>
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<td>February 9-15</td>
<td>Access to Technology</td>
<td>11-Feb</td>
<td>13-Feb</td>
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<td>February 16-22</td>
<td>Ethical use of Technology</td>
<td>18-Feb</td>
<td>20-Feb</td>
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<td>February 23-March 1</td>
<td>Gattaca film review</td>
<td>25-Feb</td>
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<td>March 2-March 8 (MARCH 4th)</td>
<td>Final Project guidelines</td>
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<td>March 10-14</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK – No classes</td>
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<td>March 16-22</td>
<td>Privacy of Information</td>
<td>18-Mar</td>
<td>20-Mar</td>
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<td>March 23-29</td>
<td>Privacy cont.</td>
<td>25-Mar</td>
<td>27-Mar</td>
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<td>March 30-April 5</td>
<td>Piracy and Copyright; Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>1-Apr</td>
<td>3-Apr</td>
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<td>April 6-12</td>
<td>Accountability &amp; Responsibility</td>
<td>8-Apr</td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
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<td>April 13-19</td>
<td>Benefits of Technology</td>
<td>15-Apr</td>
<td>17-Apr</td>
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<td>April 20-26</td>
<td>Technology Trends; Presentation Outline</td>
<td>22-Apr</td>
<td>24-Apr</td>
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<td>April 27-May 3</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>29-Apr</td>
<td>1-May</td>
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<td>May 4-10</td>
<td>Future of Higher Education</td>
<td>6-May</td>
<td>8-May</td>
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<td>May 11-17 (May 13th)</td>
<td>Group Presentation</td>
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This course calendar is subject to changes as circumstances warrant. Any such changes will be announced via Blackboard.