37:575:313 New Technology and Work

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Course Overview

This 3-credit course serves as an engagement, education, and interaction on the topics of new technologies and the changing nature of work and employment. In this course, we will gather insights from diverse academic disciplines and explore a broad spectrum of topics related to technological innovations, labor markets, and the workforce. For example, we will discuss emerging issues such as automation and job loss, digital platforms and the gig economy, and algorithmic management. We will also discuss the implications of these changes for workers, employers, and the larger society.

This course is listed as "Asynchronous content". See Rutgers University's explanation on asynchronous courses here: (https://rlc.rutgers.edu/node/442). That is, this course will have a regular schedule of work and assignments due throughout each week, but it will not require you to be online at a particular time. Rather, I will provide materials—readings, videos, assignments, and exams—and you can access these materials and satisfy the course requirements within specified time frames.

One of the key advantages of remote, asynchronous courses is **inclusion** and **flexibility**. Students can learn and complete assignments anytime and anywhere they want, including in any time zone. In addition, asynchronous courses can help increase cognitive engagement, because students will have more time to engage with and explore the course materials. For those who are interested in the benefits and challenges of taking asynchronous courses, here is a nice summary: https://rlc.rutgers.edu/node/442.

Learning Goals

This course is designed to meet the following SMLR and LSER Learning Goals:

I) Theoretical Perspectives - Demonstrate an understanding of relevant theories and apply them given the background context of a particular work situation.

- o Demonstrate an understanding of the practical perspectives, theories and concepts in their field of study
- o Evaluate and apply theories from social science disciplines to workplace issues

II) Understanding Context - Evaluate the context of workplace issues, public policies, and management decisions

- o Analyze the degree to which forms of human difference shape a person's experience of and perspectives on work
- o Analyze a contemporary global issue in their field from a multi-disciplinary and intersectional perspective
- o Analyze issues related to business strategies, organizational structures, and work systems
- o Analyze issues of social justice related to work across local and global contexts (LSER)

VII) Professional Development – Demonstrate an ability to interact with and influence others in a professional manner, and to effectively present ideas and recommendations

- o Develop effective presentation skills appropriate for different settings and audiences
- o Develop career management skills to navigate one's career
- o Develop capabilities to work and lead in a multicultural and diverse environment
- o Work productively in teams, in social networks, and on an individual basis
- o Develop cultural agility competencies
- o Demonstrate lifelong personal and professional development skills

Course Materials

This course has received an 'Open and Affordable Textbooks (OAT)' award from Rutgers University Libraries. The OAT Program supports textbook affordability at Rutgers by encouraging courses to adopt educational material that are freely available, available at a low cost (compared to similar courses) or part of Rutgers University Libraries' electronic collections, and thereby **free of charge** to Rutgers University students.

All course readings will be available via the Canvas course website. Readings will draw from academic articles, popular press articles, book excerpts, and business cases. Please check Canvas **at least twice a week**.

As a student in this course, you will be asked to provide feedback on this initiative at the end of the semester.

Student Responsibilities

Completing synchronous courses requires a high level of discipline, dedication, and time management skills. While remote, asynchronous learning offers you flexibility and convenience to learn, you are still expected to:

- • Have access to a reliable computer, and access to the Internet
- • Log in to Canvas for your course **on a daily basis**
- • Check for any announcements, syllabus updates, assignments, and/or discussions and respond accordingly
- • Actively participate in the Discussion Forum
- • Complete the assigned readings and multimedia, exercises and quizzes
- • Adhere to all due dates

Make sure you have **an alternative plan of access to your Canvas course** in case your computer

crashes (it happens). An extra computer at home, your employer's computer, or computer at your local library can be some alternatives. Additionally, be sure to backup your important documents and assignments on a flash drive or other external device.

Evaluation Methods

Weekly discussion forum	=	140
Tech focus assignment	=	60
Mid-term and final open-book exams	=	200
Final reflection paper	=	100
Total points	=	*500 points*

Respect for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated.

Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students or student groups. If you have already established accommodations with Student Accessibility Services, please communicate your approved accommodations to me at your earliest convenience so we can discuss your needs in this course.

Rutgers Academic Integrity

Students in this class and in all courses at Rutgers University are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Cheating, plagiarism in written work, receiving and providing unauthorized assistance, and sabotaging the work of others are among the behaviors that constitute violations of the Academic Integrity Policy. You are expected to be familiar with this policy. If you have questions about specific assignments, be sure to check with the instructor. The Academic Integrity Policy defines all forms of cheating and the procedures for dealing with violations. You should be familiar with this policy. The trust between the instructor and the class depends on your acceptance of this essential principle of behavior in the University. Do your own work and do not provide unauthorized assistance to others and you will find this course more rewarding.