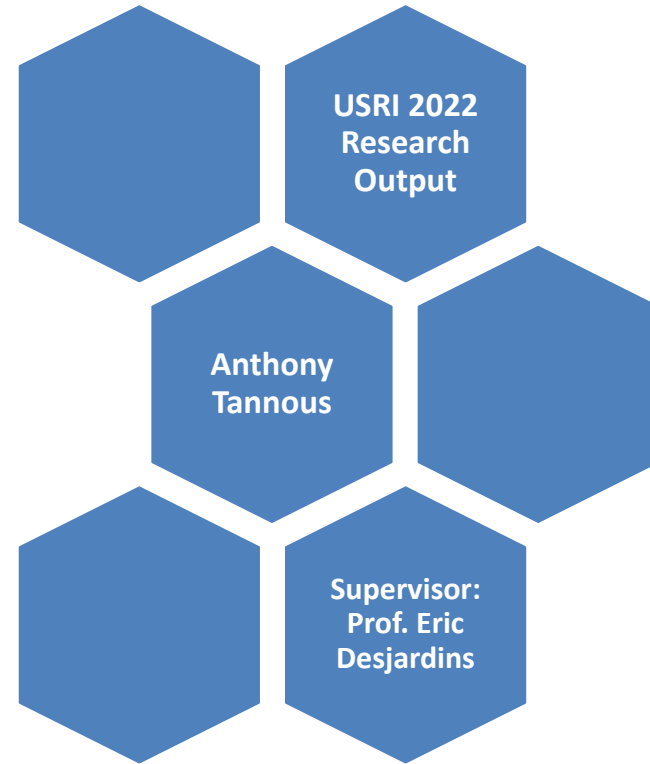


Philosophy of Technology: The Creation of a New Course



Introduction

- Technology has become a fundamental part of the lives of billions of people. With the advances in technology from health-care to personal devices, the silicone world has become an almost inseparable extension to the livelihood of many.
- However, we often forget how dependent we are on the technology that we created, to the point where we cannot see the world outside of its lens.



Purpose

- The purpose this project was to create a course to provide a space for students to develop and question various views regarding the Philosophy of Technology.
- The purpose of this syllabus was to create an outline of the philosophers that would be discussed in a way that is fluid and comprehensible while promoting in-depth discussion.

Goals

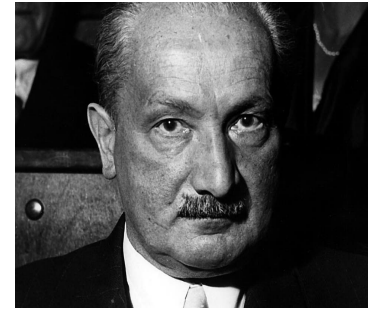
- Find specific passages from the selected philosophers that express their ideology on the Philosophy of Technology.
- Find additional articles and passages that support the primary readings, which would then allow the students to expand their own thoughts.

Creating The Syllabus

- A multitude of philosophers and authors were considered for this course with the purpose of presenting many different points of view to engage discussion.
- The idea was to divide the course into different sections that represented different points of view on the Philosophy of Technology, the sections are defined as:
 - History
 - Skeptical Optimism
 - Feminist Philosophy

Creating The Syllabus

- History of Philosophy of Technology focuses on the views from:
 - Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics Book 6*
 - Martin Heidegger: *The Questions Concerning Technology*
 - Hannah Arendt: *The Human Condition*
- Skeptical Optimism focuses on the views of Dr. Nicholas Agar
 - *The Sceptical Optimist: Why Technology Isn't the Answer to Everything*
- Feminist Philosophy focuses on the views of Sheila Jasanoff
 - *The Ethics of Invention: Technology and the Human Future*



Creating The Syllabus

- To complete my first goal, reading and analyzing of the selected authors was done. Passages were chosen based on how I thought the students would digest the information and how they would be able to analyze, discuss, and expand the way technology is thought about.
- To complete my second goal, further extensive research was required to support the main authors. This was done using many resources including: *Philosophy of Technology: An Anthology*, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, and Western Libraries Database.

Syllabus

- The schedule for the readings and author presentation would be as follows:
- History
 - Weeks 1-4
- Skeptical Optimist
 - Weeks 5-8
- Feminist Philosophy
 - Weeks 9-12
- Methods of evaluations were chosen to challenge and enrich the understanding of the students in a discussion-based environment
 - **Essay 1** (25%) on an issue of your choice discussed during the first six weeks of the course
 - **Essay 2** (35%) on an issue of your choice discussed during the second half of the semester
 - **Short Reflective Pieces** (5 in total, 15%)
 - **Leading a discussion** (15%)
 - **Participation** (10%)

Conclusion

- This course is being developed as a pilot for the further implementation of a permanent Philosophy of Technology course within the Department of Philosophy.
- This special topics course will be conducted in the 2022 fall semester by Prof. Eric Desjardins.
- The readings and assignments were chosen specifically to expand students understanding of the topic.
- This course will hopefully challenge the student's point of view and provide a more complex understanding of how technology influences us in our daily life.

References

Images

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