PHIL6920

Technology, Human Values and Environment

Course Co-ordinator: Dr. Yin Gao
Room: MC121 McMullin Building
Ph: +61 2 4921 5191
Fax: +61 2 4921 6933
Email: Yin.Gao@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation hours: Monday 1-2pm

Brief Course Description
Develops an understanding of a systematic approach to policy making and an awareness of how non-technical dimensions, including ethical, spiritual, social, political and economic issues, can arise, and should be systematically treated, in technological and management decisions, particularly in relation to systemic economic evaluation and the nature, assessment and control of technology.

Contact Hours
Tutorial for 2 Hours per week for the first four weeks and subsequent tutorial meeting as deemed necessary.

TEXTS
Recommended supplements:

Course Objectives
(1) Impart to individual students mature and disciplined knowledge of the nature of values and norms, the nature of systems and systems design, and the systematic incorporation of relevant values and norms into systems design generally and environmental design in particular.
(2) Impart to students critical skills to deal with the issues involved and employ the knowledge and methods involved in their assessment of their own culture and societal life, and in thinking about their own personal lives.
(3) Develop high level written and oral skills in analysing and presenting environmental issues.
(4) Develop a capacity to appreciate the values and norms involved in how people approach ways of living and evaluating life situations.

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1 Semester 2 2006

CTS Download Date: 11 July 2006
Course Content
The course covers the nature of norms and their application, basic principles of dynamic systems and of the choice of systems models, analyses of system normative dimensions (e.g. robustness criteria) and of societal economic and technology systems and their normative character and impacts, including in environmental design.

Assessment Items
The primary vehicle for evaluation is a major group project, done in workgroups of 4-6 students, and its formal presentation.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project Presentation</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>September 18th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>October 30th</td>
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Assumed Knowledge
a) Qualification for entry to the Diploma or Master of Environmental Studies, or equivalent.
b) Completed Phil 3910.

Plagiarism
University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one's own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:
- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another's ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs. Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link - http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/general/academic_integrity_policy_new.pdf

The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -
- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Written Assessment Items
Students are required to provide the group project outline and the final report’s electronic form as well as hard copy.

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations
Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item.
University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:
1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at:

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:
- Requests for Special Consideration must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the date of submission or examination.
- Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.
- Requests for Rescheduling Exams must be lodged no later than 5 working days before the date of the examination.

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. Students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer in the first instance.

Changing your Enrolment
The last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty (called the HECS Census Dates) are: For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2006

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester and prior to the commencement of the formal exam period. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with the Student Enquiry Centre.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/changingenrolment.html

Contact Details: Faculty Student Service Offices
The Faculty of Education and Arts Room: GP1-22 (General Purpose Building)
Phone: 02 4921 5314

Ourimbah Focus Room: AB1.01 (Administration Building)
Phone: 02 4348 4030

The Dean of Students Dr Jennifer Archer
Phone: 02 4921 5806 Fax: 02 4921 7151
resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah) Dr Bill Gladstone
Phone: 02 4348 4123 Fax: 02 4348 4145
Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

Alteration of this Course Outline
No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term

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School of Humanities and Social Science
except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS
The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness.

If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

GROUP PROJECTS
You will be assigned to groups of 4-6 students. Normally, you will all take equal final responsibility for each group report.

Choose a significant project or public policy and provide a critical analysis of the values and systems design issues which underlie it. Example projects: Transport policy for the Sydney basin, Design of next aluminium smelter or coal mine for the Hunter Valley, Environmental assessment and policy for Lake Macquarie.

This is to be a major project, typically 30-50 pages, which should aim to provide a penetrating, comprehensive and integrated analysis, clearly and strongly argued. It is to be fully documented and referenced. It should be prepared in the form of a consultant's report, with executive summary, and objectives, methodology, assumptions and significant findings clearly laid out.

Your proposal for a choice of subject, aims and methodology must be initially presented to the class as a 20-minute oral presentation. (This presentation will comprise part of your participation mark.) A one-page statement summarising this proposal should be submitted to the responsible lecturer for approval before proceeding to the study proper.

Online Tutorial Registration:
Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system:


Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/
This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
This will be an extended (1 hour +, including question time) oral presentation of EACH group project. The main aims will be to gain experience in project presentation and critical feedback on your project.
Hard copy submission:
- **Type your assignments:** All work must be typewritten in 11 or 12 point black font. Leave a wide margin for marker’s comments, use 1.5 or double spacing, and include page numbers.
- **Word length:** The word limit of all assessment items should be strictly followed – 10% above or below is acceptable, otherwise penalties may apply.
- **Proof read your work** because spelling, grammatical and referencing mistakes will be penalised.
- **Staple the pages** of your assignment together (do not use pins or paper clips).
- **University coversheet:** All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet: [www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/general/assess_coversheet.pdf](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/general/assess_coversheet.pdf)
- **Assignments are to be deposited at any Student Focus. Focus are located at:**
  - Level 3, Shortland Union, Callaghan
  - Level 2, Student Services Centre, Callaghan
  - Ground Floor, University House, City
  - Ground Floor, Administration Building, Ourimbah
- **Do not fax or email assignments:** Only hard copies of assignments will be considered for assessment. Inability to physically submit a hard copy of an assignment by the deadline due to other commitments or distance from campus is an unacceptable excuse. Assignments mailed to Schools are accepted from the date posted.
- **Keep a copy of all assignments:** All students must date stamp their own assignments using the machine provided. Mailed assignments to Schools are date-stamped upon receipt. However, it is the student's responsibility to produce a copy of their work if the assignment goes astray after submission. Students are advised to keep updated back-ups in hard copy and on disk.

**Online copy submission to Turnitin**
In addition to hard copy submission, students are required to submit an electronic version of the following assignments to Turnitin via the course Blackboard website:
Prior to final submission, all students have the opportunity to submit one draft of their assignment to Turnitin to self-check their referencing. Assignments will not be marked until both hard copy and online versions have been submitted. Marks may be deducted for late submission of either version.

**Penalties for Late Assignments**
Assignments submitted after the due date, without an approved extension of time will be penalised by the reduction of 5% of the possible maximum mark for the assessment item for each day or part day that the item is late. Weekends count as one day in determining the penalty. Assessment items submitted more than ten days after the due date will be awarded zero marks.

**Special Consideration/Extension of Time Applications**
Students wishing to apply for Special Consideration or Extension of Time should obtain the appropriate form from the Student Focus.

**No Assignment Re-submission**
Students who have failed an assignment are not permitted to revise and resubmit it in this course. However, students are always welcome to contact their Tutor, Lecturer or Course Coordinator to make a consultation time to receive individual feedback on their assignments.

**Remarks**
Students can request to have their work re-marked by the Course Coordinator or Discipline Convenor (or their delegate); three outcomes are possible: the same grade, a lower grade, or a higher grade being awarded. Students may also appeal against their final result for a course. Please consult the University policy at: [www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/procedures_appeals_finalresult.pdf](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/procedures_appeals_finalresult.pdf)

**Return of Assignments**
Students can collect assignments from a nominated Student Focus during office hours. Students will be informed during class which Focus to go to and the earliest date that assignments will be available for collection. Students must present their student identification card to collect their assignment.
Preferred Referencing Style
In this course, it is recommended that you use the Harvard in-text referencing system (similar to the APA system) for referencing sources of information used in assignments. Inadequate or incorrect reference to the work of others may be viewed as plagiarism and result in reduced marks or failure. An in-text citation names the author of the source, gives the date of publication, and for a direct quote includes a page number, in parentheses. At the end of the paper, a list of references provides publication information about the source; the list is alphabetised by authors' last names (or by titles for works without authors). Further information on referencing and general study skills can be obtained from:
• Infoskills: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/library/tutorials/infoskills/index.html

Student Representatives
We are very interested in your feedback and suggestions for improvement. Student Representatives are the channel of communication between students and the School Board. Contact details of Student Representatives can be found on the School website.

Student Communication
Students should discuss any course related matters with their Tutor, Lecturer, or Course Coordinator in the first instance and then the relevant Discipline or Program Convenor. If this proves unsatisfactory, they should then contact the Head of School if required. Contact details can be found on the School website.

Essential Online Information for Students
Information on Class and Exam Timetables, Tutorial Online Registration, Learning Support, Campus Maps, Careers information, Counselling, the Health Service and a range of free Student Support Services can be found at:
• http://www.newcastle.edu.au/currentstudents/index.html

Details on course content