Course Title:
Communication and Technology

Course Number:
COMM 5363-101

Course Description:
This course examines the history and societal impact of communication technology, from the
development of writing to the Worldwide Web. We will discuss the notion of “technological
determinism,” the idea that technology determines the course of history. We will also discuss the way
that technology affects how we interact with the public sphere and with each other, and how technology
spreads and the implications of the “digital divide.” Finally, we will look at how technology shapes our
social roles and identities.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: February 28-March 2 & 7-9, 2014
Location: 3281 Sheridan Road, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.
Hours: Fri 5:30-9:00 p.m., Sat 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sun 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: January 30, 2014

Site Director:
Anita Bailey. Assistant: Nasaussja Thomas. Phone: 580-355-1974; Fax: 580-442-2741; E-mail:
apftsill@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Eric Mark Kramer, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
Department of Communication
Burton Hall #101
Norman, OK  73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-3111
Fax Number: (405) 325-7625
Email Address: kramer@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the
class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each
class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK.
Orders can be placed online at www.oklahoma.bkstr.com. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day at
(405) 325-7770. Representatives are available by phone at (405) 325-3511 or (800) 522-0772 (toll-free)
or E-mail at 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
on Friday; and 10 a.m. to 4p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through
Friday (CST). (Text prices are available online.)

   ISBN 9780393339758.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

**Course Objectives:**

The main goals of this course are to examine the implications of technology for communication and culture, and to consider what new communication technology might bring.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

**Final Exam:**

An in-class final examination on the last day of class will cover relevant concepts and topics from readings, lectures, and discussion. 100% of course grade

**Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity.

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

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INSTRUCTOR VITA
Eric Kramer, Ph.D.

Education
1988 Ph.D. in Telecommunications, Ohio University

Current Positions
- Advanced Programs Professor since 1990
- Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
- COMM 5223 Historical Development of Communication Theory
- COMM 5013 Introduction to Graduate Study
- COMM 6323 International Communication
- COMM 5970 Seminar in Mass Media Ethics

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
- International Communication
- Intercultural Communication
- Cross-Cultural Communications
- Human/Technology Interface
- Technological Convergence
- Mass Communications Monopoly

Representative Publications and Presentations
- Modern/Postmodern: Off the Beaten Path of Antimodernism, Postmodernism and Race, 1997
- The Search for Ground: Critical Knowledge and Relativism
- Media Images and Phenomenology: Giber’s Hermeneutic for Modern Myth
- Dr. Kramer has written many articles and book chapters.

Representative Honors and Awards Received
- First exchange student between Ohio University and Feng Chia University, Republic of China, 1983
- Invited by, and given financial support from, The Institute for Advanced Phenomenological Research, for Collegium Phaenomenologicum, Perugia, Italy
- Fulbright Scholar, 1992-93

Major Professional Affiliations
- International Communication Association
- National Communication Association
- International Jean Gelzer Society
- Japan Communication Association
- Japan Mass Communication Association