



AK125V Technology and Society

4.0 credits

Teknik och samhälle

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years

Establishment

On 2022-01-31, the Head of School of ABE has decided to establish this official course syllabus to apply from the autumn semester 2022 (registration number A-2022-0167).

Grading scale

P, F

Education cycle

First cycle

Main field of study

Technology

Specific prerequisites

None

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

After passing the course, the student should be able to:

Give an account of some basic aspects of technological development from a societal perspective

Discuss how inventions and material things interact with social and political values, the organisation of society and environmental aspects

Critically review narratives about technological development

Course contents

How do technology and society relate to each other? How is society influenced by technology, and how is technological development shaped by the way society is organised? How do people use technology to achieve aims that lie beyond the purely technical? In this course we learn to look at technology as something more than artifacts created by engineers. We will analyse technology in a socio-technical systems perspective and learn to see how inventions and material things interact with social and political values, societal institutions and environmental aspects.

This is an introductory course that is adapted to students who have not had much contact with the humanities and social sciences during their earlier studies but who feel a need to develop a deeper understanding of technology's societal impact and how the development and use of new technology are shaped by factors such as gender, race, political conviction and historical experience. You will also learn to read texts in a critical way and discover social and political aspects of technology in written documents.

Examination

- INL1 - Assignment work, 4.0 credits, grading scale: P, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.

