HUM-426 **Science, technology and environment II**

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Cursus	Sem.	Type
Humanities and Social Sciences	MA2	Obl.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	3
Withdrawal	Unauthorized
Session	Summer
Semester	Spring
Exam	During the semester
Workload	90h
Weeks	14
Hours	**3 weekly**
Project	3 weekly
Number of positions	**60**

It is not allowed to withdraw from this subject after the registration deadline.

Remark

Une seule inscription à un cours SHS+MGT autorisée. En cas d'inscriptions multiples elles seront toutes supprimées sans notification. Student can work in French and English.

Summary

Science and technology have profoundly transformed our world. In the current crisis, they emerge as both solutions and problems. The course explores the complex relations between science, technology, and ecological issues. Students will conduct their own inquiry of human-transformed environments.

Content

The course will explore the complex interplay between science, technology and environmental issues, in regard to the new climatic regime that characterize our epoch. Caught between dystopian futures, looming threats of collapse, and the promise of quick technoscientific fixes, modern societies have to face several interlocked environmental crises at the same time: climate disruption, biodiversity loss, toxic exposures, increasing social inequalities. Beyond the promises of science and technology to solve these issues, what can we learn about their complex relationships with nature and environment? Mobilizing insights from Science and Technology Studies (STS) and the anthropology of the Anthropocene, the course will provide students with tools to "stay with the trouble" (Haraway 2016) and study the transformations of more-than-human worlds. It will combine theoretical inputs with a collective inquiry of "new natures" following Tsing's guide to the patchy Anthropocene (2024) to unfold their ecological, social, and political stakes.

Keywords

climate change; anthropocene; science; technology; infrastructure; ecology; environment; justice; science and technology studies (STS); anthropology

Learning Prerequisites

Required courses

Recommended courses

it is oblogatory to have attended the same course in the Fall semester (HUM-428).

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Carry out an inquiry of a patch of the anthropocene
- Analyze the interplay between ecological, social, and political issues
- Interpret your observations in regard to the literature
- Characterize the actors, knowledge, and transformations at stake
- Explore the historical and social constitution of a patch of the anthropocene
- Visualize your results with a map, drawing or a schema
- Report your results in an oral presentation, a poster and a written report
- Develop your arguments

Transversal skills

- Write a scientific or technical report.
- Design and present a poster.
- Plan and carry out activities in a way which makes optimal use of available time and other resources.
- Use a work methodology appropriate to the task.
- Communicate effectively, being understood, including across different languages and cultures.
- Take responsibility for environmental impacts of her/ his actions and decisions.
- Collect data.
- Demonstrate the capacity for critical thinking

Teaching methods

The course will combine theoretical and methodological inputs, with seminar sessions to accomapgny the students in the conduct of their own inquiry.

Expected student activities

Students will collectively conduct an inquiry of a "patch of the anthropocene" (Tsing 2024)
Active participation in class
Oral presentation (1st and 2d semester)
A review of literature (1st semester)
A poster and writtent report (2d semester)

Assessment methods

Oral presentation and review of litterature (1st semester, 50/50)
Oral presentation, poster, and written report (2d semester, each counts for 1/3 of the final note)

Supervision

Office hours	No
Assistant.e.s	Yes
Forum	Yes
Others	Personal appointment on demand, to be taken by email.

Resources

Bibliography

Indicative References

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