



**Stony Brook University**  
Department of Technology and Society  
College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

**EST 441-02, Interdisciplinary Senior Project**  
Meeting Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:45am-11:05am  
Meeting Location: Computer Science 1310

**Important Note:** All times and deadlines in the syllabus are based on UTC -4 (time in New York). Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule, but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make it necessary to change the syllabus. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in course announcements or through Stony Brook email.

## Contents

Instructor Information.....	2
Course Description: .....	2
Required Books:.....	2
Course Delivery Mode and Structure: .....	3
How We Will Communicate:.....	3
Technical Requirements: .....	3
Technical Assistance:.....	4
Learning objectives:.....	4
How to Succeed in this Course: .....	4
Course Schedule.....	4
Grading, Attendance, and Late Work Policies.....	5
Assessment and Grading:.....	5
Viewing Grades on Blackboard .....	5
Letter Grades:.....	6
Attendance Policy: .....	6
Late Work Policy: .....	6
Other Information .....	6
Course and University Policies.....	7
Student Accessibility Support Center Statement: .....	7

Academic Integrity Statement: .....	7
Critical Incident Management: .....	7
Understand When You May Drop This Course:.....	7
Incomplete Policy: .....	8
Course Materials and Copyright Statement:.....	8
Online Communication Guidelines and Learning Resources:.....	8
Online Etiquette: .....	8
Online Classes Require Better Communication .....	8
My Role as the Instructor:.....	8
• To point out key points or to identify valuable posts.....	9

### Instructor Information

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Thomas S. Woodson  
 E-MAIL: thomas.woodson@stonybrook.edu  
 OFFICE PHONE: (631) 632-9974  
 OFFICE HOURS: By appointment through email

### Course Description:

Course title: **Interdisciplinary Senior Project**

Course catalog # and section: EST 441.02

Credit hours: 3

Prerequisites: Must be an EST undergraduate major who has taken EST 440 or permission from instruction.

Meeting Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:45-11:05

Meeting Location: Computer Science 1310

Welcome. I am excited to teach EST 441. I have taught this course several times over the past 7 years and each year it is an enriching experience for both me and the students. In this course students will select a technology-oriented topic, one that could be related to a selected class theme or be of their choosing. Students will work individually on the topic and present their research at the end of the semester. Students will also write research project associated with their work. Throughout the semester the class reads and discusses important books and articles about technology and society.

### Required Books:

Kelly, Kevin. 2017. *The Inevitable: Understanding the 12 Technological Forces That Will Shape Our Future*.

Johnson, Steven. 2010. *Where Good Ideas Come From: The natural history of innovation*. Riverhead Books. New York, NY

### Course Delivery Mode and Structure:

This is face to face class\*. Students must be mindful of all course expectations, deliverables and due dates, especially because online courses require significant time management. All assignments and course interactions will utilize internet technologies. See “Technical Requirements” section for more information. In Blackboard, you will access online lessons, course materials, and resources. All assignments should be submitted the deadline of UTC -4 (New York Time).

\*Note: There will be a few students who participate synchronously online due to COVID 19 restrictions.

### *How We Will Communicate:*

Please email me for if you have questions about the course. If you use Blackboard’s **email tool** from the course site, it will automatically include your full name, course name and section when you send me an email. **Please allow between 24-48 hours for an email reply.** Please use your Stony Brook University email for all University-related communications. All instructor correspondence will be sent to your SBU email account. **Plan on checking your SBU email account regularly for course-related messages.** To log in to Stony Brook Google Mail, go to <http://www.stonybrook.edu/mycloud> and sign in with your NetID and password.

Regular announcements will be sent from Blackboard. These will be posted in the course site and may or may not be sent by email.

Regular communication is essential in online classes. Logging in once a day, checking the discussion board and participating with your colleagues ensures that you are able to remain an active member of the class and earn full points for participation.

### *Technical Requirements:*

This course uses Blackboard for the facilitation of communications between faculty and students, submission of assignments, and posting of grades and feedback. The Blackboard course site can be accessed at <https://blackboard.stonybrook.edu>

If you are unsure of your NetID, visit <https://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/finding-your-netid-and-password> for more information. You are responsible for having a reliable computer and Internet connection throughout the term. **Caution!** You will not be able to successfully complete this course if you attempt to complete all coursework on a smart phone or tablet. It may not be possible to submit the files required for your homework assignments.

Students should be able to use email, a word processor, spreadsheet program, and presentation software to complete this course successfully.

The following list details a minimum recommended computer set-up and the software packages you will need to have access to, and be able to use:

- PC with Windows 8 or higher (we recommend a 3-year Warranty)
- Macintosh with OS 10.11 or higher (we recommend a 3-year Warranty)
- Intel Core i5 or higher

- 250 GB Hard Drive
- 8 GB RAM
- Latest version of Chrome, Firefox or Explorer; Mac users may use Chrome or Firefox. (A complete list of supported browsers and operating systems can be found on the My Institution page when you log in to Blackboard.)
- High speed internet connection
- Webcam (Note: In order to facilitate class cohesion, discussions and learning students should keep their videos on throughout the class. Only in rare, pre-approved situations can students have their video off during class. Failing to keep your webcam on will hurt your participation score)
- Microphone
- Word processing software (Microsoft Word, Pages, etc.)
- Speakers (either internal or external) or headphones
- Ability to download and install free software applications and plug-ins (note: you must have administrator access to install applications and plug-ins).

#### *Technical Assistance:*

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with Blackboard you can:

- Phone: 631-632-9800 (client support, Wi-Fi, software and hardware)
- Submit a help request ticket: <https://it.stonybrook.edu/services/itsm>
- If you are on campus, visit the Walk-Up Tech Support Station in the Educational Communications Center (ECC) building.

#### *Learning objectives:*

Students will improve their research abilities and their oral and written presentation skills.

Students will learn to carefully analyze a piece of writing in their skill area.

Students will refine their understanding of how technology develops.

Students will improve their ability to speak extemporaneously on technical matters and in a substantive fashion.

#### *How to Succeed in this Course:*

- Complete all assignments on time
- Start the project early
- Actively participant in the class discussions
- Ask for help if you have questions or problems.
- You should expect to spend at least 9 hours per week outside of class working on the project and class assignments.

#### *Course Schedule*

#### **Course calendar subject to change**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
25-Jan	Intro	27-Jan	Writing tips/plagiarism/ Paper Review
1-Feb	Where Ideas Intro.	3-Feb	Where Ideas Ch. 1
8-Feb	Topic Identification	10-Feb	Where Ideas Ch. 2-3
15-Feb	Where Ideas Ch. 4	17-Feb	Where Ideas Ch. 5
22-Feb	Where Ideas Ch. 6-7	24-Feb	Research Day
1-Mar	Where Ideas Conclusion	3-Mar	Project and SDGs
8-Mar	Inevitable Intro-Ch.1	10-Mar	Inevitable Ch. 2
15-Mar	Spring Break	17-Mar	Spring Break
22-Mar	Research Day	24-Mar	Inevitable Ch. 3
29-Mar	Inevitable Ch. 4	31-Mar	Inevitable Ch. 5
5-Apr	Inevitable Ch. 6-7	7-Apr	Research Day
12-Apr	Inevitable Ch. 8	14-Apr	Inevitable Ch. 9-10
19-Apr	Inevitable Ch. 11-12	21-Apr	Research Day
26-Apr	Inevitable Wrap-up	28-Apr	Research Day
3-May	Presentations Due	5-May	Research Day

### Grading, Attendance, and Late Work Policies

#### *Assessment and Grading:*

The main assignment for this class is the project. In addition to the project, the class will feature presentations, and reading summaries.

#### *Viewing Grades on Blackboard:*

Points and feedback for graded activities will be posted to the My Grades tab in the Tools area of Blackboard. In most cases, discussion boards, VoiceThreads, Journals will be graded within 48 hours of closing each week. Submitted projects will be graded within 2 weeks of being submitted.

In this course, you will be assessed on the following:

Assignments	% of grade
Capstone project checkpoints	15
Project Presentation	5
Project Final Paper	30
Attendance/participation	10
Other assignments	40

**Letter Grades:**

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Points	GPA/Points	Performance
A	94-100	4.0	Excellent work
A-	90-93	3.7	Nearly excellent work
B+	87-89	3.3	Very good work
B	83-86	3.0	Good work
B-	80-82	2.7	Mostly good work
C+	77-79	2.3	Mediocre work
C	73-76	2.0	Mediocre to poor work
C-	70-72	1.7	Poor work
D+	65-69	1.3	Very poor work
D	60-64	1.0	Very poor work
F	Less than 60	0.0	Failing work

**Attendance Policy:** In order to succeed in this class, you must attend class. If you regularly miss class, it will negatively impact your participation points for the course.

**Late Work Policy:** Turn in your work by the due date in order to receive full credit. After the deadline you have the option to turn in work, but you will lose points. Late work will only be accepted with full credit given university sanctioned absences (ie. Documented illness, or documented family emergencies).

**Other Information****Discussion Board Grading Rubric**

Interpretation Points	Quality of posts	Frequency	Mechanics
Exemplary 5, full points or higher	The comment is accurate, relevant, properly attributed and evidence-based as well as original and well written. Adds substantial teaching presence to the course and stimulates additional thought about the issue under discussion. Collegial and friendly tone.	Participates steadily throughout the week and responds to instructor and/or peers on or before deadline.	Free of spelling and grammatical errors.
Accomplished 3 to 4	The comment lacks at least one of the above qualities, but is above average in quality. Makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the issue being discussed.		One or two minor errors.

Developing 2 to 3	The comment lacks two or three of the required qualities. Comments which are based solely upon personal opinion or personal experience often fall within this category.	Few posts. Posts are bunched into one or two days at the end of the week.	
Needs work 1 to 2	The comment presents little or no new information. However, may provide social presence and contribute to a collegial atmosphere.	Few posts. Deadlines are not met.	Multiple spelling and grammar errors or inappropriate.

### Course and University Policies

#### *Student Accessibility Support Center Statement:*

If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact the Student Accessibility Support Center, 128 ECC Building, (631) 632-6748, or via e-mail at: [sasc@stonybrook.edu](mailto:sasc@stonybrook.edu). They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Student Accessibility Support Center. For procedures and information go to the following website: <https://ehs.stonybrook.edu/programs/fire-safety/emergency-evacuation/evacuation-guide-people-physical-disabilities>

#### *Academic Integrity Statement:*

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty is required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty please refer to the academic judiciary website at: [http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic\\_integrity/index.html](http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/index.html)

#### *Critical Incident Management:*

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of University Community Standards any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. Further information about most academic matters can be found in the Undergraduate Bulletin, the Undergraduate Class Schedule, and the Faculty-Employee Handbook.

#### *Understand When You May Drop This Course:*

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider withdrawing from a course. Refer to the Stony Brook Academic Schedule for dates and deadlines for registration:

### *Incomplete Policy:*

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. Circumstances must be documented and significant enough to merit an incomplete. If you need to request an incomplete for this course, contact me for approval as far in advance as possible.

### *Course Materials and Copyright Statement:*

Course material accessed from Blackboard, SB Connect, SB Capture or a Stony Brook Course website is for the exclusive use of students who are currently enrolled in the course. Content from these systems cannot be reused or distributed without written permission of the instructor and/or the copyright holder. Duplication of materials protected by copyright, without permission of the copyright holder is a violation of the Federal copyright law, as well as a violation of Stony Brook's Academic Integrity.

### *Online Communication Guidelines and Learning Resources:*

**Maintain Professional Conduct Both in the Classroom and Online:** The classroom is a professional environment where academic debate and learning take place. I will make every effort to make this environment safe for you to share your opinions, ideas, and beliefs. In return, you are expected to respect the opinions, ideas, and beliefs of other students—both in the face-to-face classroom and online communication. Students have the right and privilege to learn in the class, free from harassment and disruption. The course follows the standards set in the Student Code of Conduct, and students are subject to disciplinary action for violation of that code. If your behavior does not follow the course etiquette standards stated below, the grade you receive for a posting may suffer. I reserve the right to remove any discussion messages that display inappropriate language or content.

### *Online Etiquette:*

- Offensive language or rudeness will not be tolerated. Discuss ideas, not the person.
- Avoid cluttering your messages with excessive emphasis (stars, arrows, exclamations).
- If you are responding to a message, include the relevant part of the original message in your reply, or refer to the original post to avoid confusion;
- Be specific and clear, especially when asking questions.
- Use standard punctuation and capitalization. Using all UPPERCASE characters gives the appearance of shouting and makes the message less legible;
- Remember that not all readers have English as their native language, so make allowances for possible misunderstandings and unintended discourtesies.

### *Online Classes Require Better Communication:*

It is important to remember that we will not have the non-verbal cues that occur in a face-to-face classroom. I cannot see the confused, frustrated, or unhappy expressions on your face if you encounter problems. You **MUST** communicate with me so that I can help. To make the experience go smoothly, remember that you're responsible for initiating more contact, and being direct, persistent, and vocal when you don't understand something.

### *My Role as the Instructor:*

As the instructor, I will serve as a "guide" in our online classroom. While I will not respond to every post, I will read what is posted, and reply when necessary. Expect instructor posts in the following situations:

- To assist each of you when it comes to making connections between discussion, lectures, and reading material.
- To fill in important things that may have been missed.
- To re-direct discussion when it gets “out of hand.”
- To point out key points or to identify valuable posts.