

Course ID  
**TECH&SOC**  
Course Duration  
**2-3 days**

Course Title  
**Technology and Society**

**Aimed At**

Executives, managers (both technical and non-technical), technical professionals, and others who need to understand how technology impacts society and deal with problems that involve political, economic, and social issues.

**Prerequisites**

Some general knowledge of information technology and telecommunications will be helpful but is not required.

**Course  
in a Nutshell**

Today CEOs, executives, managers, and technical folks at all levels must deal with a bewildering array of issues, many of which were barely on the radar just a few years ago. Technology and science now impact nearly all aspects of society, so decision makers must recognize these interactions to carry out their duties and responsibilities more effectively.

The *Technology and Society* course examines the interaction of technology and society, with emphasis on how broad societal and political issues affect the deployment and use of technology. It looks at how technology – especially Information and Communications Technology (ICT) – is transforming society as well as the global economy.

**Customize It!**

We can add or omit topics and otherwise tailor the course to address the specific needs and concerns of your team.

**Learn About**

- Rapid rate of technological change and its impact on societies around the world
- Role of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in
  - Globalization of economies, crime, culture, and shifts in global power
  - Changing nature of work, governance, identity, communications
  - Privacy at all levels
  - Creating a global civil society
  - Economic development
- International laws and treaties in place with respect to e-commerce, intellectual property, computer-related crime, taxation, and trade
- Professional codes of ethics, ethical decision making
- Growing reliance on ICT affects the environment

- How technology affects society and is affected by it
- Basic principles and theories of economics and their relationship to technology
- Political issues that can affect funding, development, and use of technology
- Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Digital Rights Management (DRM), and the Internet.
- Climate change as an example of interaction of technology and society
- Evolution of societies and how technology affects them

## **Course Outline**

- Technology and Society: A historical overview
  - Change driven by technology innovations
  - Major epochs of human history and technology innovations
  - Stages of technology integration into society
  - Moore's Law and its implications
- Economics basics and applications
  - Major schools of economics theory
  - Macro and micro economics
  - Interaction of economics, ICT, and society
  - Major players in the economy
  - Economic/business cycles
  - Changing nature of work, education, communications, and leisure due to ICT
  - Productivity and ICT
- Basics of politics, public policy and regulation
  - Sovereignty, jurisdiction
  - National and international law
  - Actors on the international stage: Nations, NGOs, cartels
  - Policy and regulation applied to ICT and technology
  - Interaction of policy and regulation with ICT and society
  - Privacy and privacy policy in the age of the Internet and Big Data/Analytics
  - Politics, consumption, and happiness
- Globalization and its impacts
  - What is globalization?
  - Globalization and the world economy
  - Winners and losers
  - Cultural impacts: Erosion of local traditions, clothing, cuisines, crafts, and languages
  - Dilution of sovereignty, perception of rule by distant bureaucrats
  - Populism and backlash
  - Worker displacement
  - Future of globalization
- Ethics and its application to technology

- Major approaches to ethics
- Ethics in the professional sphere
- Ethics in the marketplace
- Ethics in global politics, policies, and economics
- Technology and making a better world order
- Energy, climate, and technology
  - Climate change as an example of an integrated society/technology problem
  - Climate change: Principal issues and evidence
  - Major players
  - Proposed solutions/actions
  - Sustainability and productivity
- Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
  - History of IPR and present situation
  - Digital rights management (DRM)
  - Impact of digital technology on IPR
  - Internet and the future of IPR
  - Protecting IPR in the digital age
- ICT and the Internet
  - Internet regulation and governance
  - “Net neutrality”
  - Cybercrime and cybersecurity
  - Privacy concerns
  - Security issues raised by IoT and related technologies
- Technology and the long-term evolution of society
  - Ways in which technology will influence society
  - Changing nature of work
  - Disruptive technologies
  - Growth of robots and automation and impact on workers and society
  - Society evolution, decay, and collapse
  - Technology as a means to thwart collapse
  - Rare events and black swans
  - Modeling the future: Problems and pitfalls
- Technology and Society: Course recap, discussion, and conclusion

*DCN KrR,f*