Spring 2021

PTC 603-852: Identity, Technology, and Communication

John Starrick

PTC 603: Identity, Technology, and Communication

Spring 2021

Instructor Information

Instructor	Email	Course Dates & Location
John Starrick, MSPTC	John.j.starrick@njit.edu	Online, Asynchronous 01/19/2021-05/13/2021 Office hours by appointment only

General Information

Description

(From the NJIT Catalog): Examines the complex ways in which technology constructs and is constructed by society, with emphasis on interrelationships between technology and communication. Discussions focus on how technological change is expressed in social and political movements, literature, art, architecture, and philosophy and how they, in turn, influence the future direction of technology. Design and updating of the MSPTC ePortfolio will be required in this seminar

Prerequisite: PTC 601. Advanced Professional and Technical Communication

Expectations

Since we operate in an asynchronous online community, students are expected to demonstrate courtesy, etiquette and respect for their fellow students within the discussion forums. A heavy emphasis (**28% of the overall grade**) is placed on the **discussion posts and replies** as this type of information exchange greatly enhances our mutual learning experiences.

Course Materials

Required Materials

There are no required materials to purchase. Links and copies of reading assignments and/or research materials will be posted on the Canvas course site.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Exercises
Week 1: 01/19 – 01/24	Introduction to the Course and Student Introductions	1. Post your Introduction to the forum
Week 2: 01/25 – 01/31	The Psychology of Online Social Identities	1. Weekly readings 2. Discussion exercises
Week 3: 02/01 – 02/07	Digital Identity	1. Weekly Readings 2. Discussion exercises
Week 4: 02/08 – 02/14	Digital Identity (cont.)	1. Submit 'Who Am I?' exercise
Week 5: 02/15 – 02/21	Online Communities and Online Culture	1. Weekly readings 2. Discussion exercises

Week	Topic	Exercises
Week 6: 02/22 – 02/28	Storytelling & Social Media	1. Weekly readings 2. Discussion exercises
Week 7: 03/01 – 03/07	Online Performativity	1. Weekly readings 2. Discussion exercises
Week 8: 03/08 – 03/14	Global Considerations & Research Topic Selection	1. Weekly readings 2. Discussion exercises 3. Research topic selection
Week 9: 03/15 – 03/21	**Spring Recess**	• **No assignments are due**
Week 10: 03/22 – 03/28	Annotated Bibliography	1. Submit annotated bibliography for topic of research
Week 11: 03/29 – 04/04	Research Project Kick-Off	1. Submit research intentions to discussion forum 2. Peer replies
Week 12: 04/05 – 04/11	Literature Review draft	1. Submit draft literature review
Week 13: 04/12 – 04/18	Final Literature Review	1. Submit final literature review
Week 14: 04/19 – 04/25	Research Process	1. Weekly readings 2. Discussion exercises
Week 15: 04/26 – 05/02	Research Project draft	1. Submit draft research project
Week 16: 05/03 – 05/09	Final Research Project	1. Submit final research project revision
Week 17: 05/10 – 05/13	Course Reflection	1. Submit course reflection

Additional Information and Resources

Grading Policy

Assignments, discussion activities and other exercises will be graded using a points system. The maximum number of points that can be attained in this class is 1000.

The tables below outline how your grades will be calculated:

Final Grades	Range	Significance
A	900-1000	Excellent
B+	870-899	Good
B	800-869	Acceptable
C+	750-799	Marginal Performance
C	700-749	Minimum Performance
F	0-699	Failure

Assignments:

Introduction Post	25 pts
Course Reflection	50 pts
Who Am I? Exercise	75 pts
Annotated Bibliography	100 pts
Literature Review draft	75 pts
Final Literature Review	120 pts
Research Project draft	75 pts
Final Research Project	200 pts
Weekly Initial Discussion Posts (8 weeks @ 20 pts each)	160 pts
Discussion Peer Responses (8 weeks @ 15 pts each)	120 pts
Total Points	**1000**

Discussion Posts:

For the discussion posts, students are expected to provide valuable insight and demonstrate critical thinking for each week's topic(s). The same applies to the student responses. Please offer a substantive reply to your peers; a "simple I agree," or "great point," will surely not suffice. Replies should be a minimum 3-5 sentences that complement the author's original post.

All initial discussion posts are due by **Thursday 11:59pm** of the assigned week, and students must reply to at least **two** of their peers by **Sunday, 11:59pm.**

Assignment Due Dates:

Our course week will run from Monday to Sunday. All assignments are due on **Sundays** by **11:59pm,** unless otherwise specified. Please see specific assignment instructions on the Canvas course site.

Should any serious circumstance arise that would prohibit an on-time assignment submission, please reach out to me as soon as possible so alternate arrangements may be made.
Late assignments will have point deductions of **10 pts per day**. After the third day, assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of **0** unless previous arrangements have been agreed upon.

NJIT's statement on academic integrity:

Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu".

Communication:

All course related announcements and other information will be posted in the Canvas site and/or sent via NJIT's official student email system, as necessary. Please be sure to check the course announcements forum and your student email regularly. Also, please send any course related correspondence to this instructor via the NJIT email system.

I will be available to all students via phone or skype, WebEx, etc. by appointment only.

Please note: This syllabus, the assignments, due dates, and other information may be revised by this instructor at any time during the semester. All changes will be reasonable, made according to class needs and in consultation with the program director.