

(Module Code TBC) Technology and International Politics (draft)

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Overview:

Technology is ubiquitous to everyday living in contemporary times. Its utility is pervasive across domains and disciplines; international politics in no exception. This module will engage with the role and key characteristics of how technology and international politics are co-dependent for their progression, in history and contemporary times. By the end of the module, we will come to appreciate the crucial place of technology in shaping the politics at the global level and as well as impacting lives and behaviours at societal and individual level. Eventually, we prepare ourselves to brace for the future that is likely to be get more dynamic and unpredictable.

Assessments:

- Participation and engagement in the seminars (20%)
- Response Paper (2 Nos) at Week 2 and Week 4 (20%)
 - Ideally a brief paper of 600-800 words drawn from the readings showing engagement and application.
 - Demonstration of application with real-world examples will be appreciated and rewarded
- Presentation (10%) through Weeks 3 to 5
 - 10 minutes per individual (assuming that it is cohort of 15 students, will begin a week earlier if it is more than 15)
 - The presenter is expected to present a key argument, a theoretical framework, or a case study pertaining to the themes of the module.
- Final Essay (50%)
 - The essay is expected to of 2500 words, excluding bibliography and referencing.
 - You are encouraged to use Chicago style of referencing (footnotes), but you are welcome to use Harvard style (in-text) if you are more comfortable with that.
 - Critical thinking will be rewarded.

- Essays should have a neat structure, with a clear introduction, main body, and a substantive conclusion.
- The date of submission will be announced subsequently.

Course Content

Week 1: Technology and International Politics

True to the title of the module, we will delve into the role of technology in international politics through history and contemporary time.

Week 2: Technology Control Regimes as a Tool of International Politics

This week, we will investigate how powerful states have used technology control regimes to influence and control other states. We will touch upon control regimes on nuclear technology, critical technology, missile technology, and the so-called Chip War etc, as examples.

Week 3: Critical Infrastructure, National Security, and International Politics

Keeping critical infrastructure as the base, we will examine and explore how policy making and frameworks flow outward from national interests and shape the international politics.

Week 4: Tech Companies: New types of States?

This week will examine the status, power, and role of Big Tech companies in influencing international politics.

Week 5: Regulating Technology

This week will delve into the key debate of a *laissez faire* approach versus a regulatory approach to deal with the challenges of technology in international politics. We will examine national and global approaches to regulating technology.

Readings:

The readings are being finalised and will be released in advance of commencement of teaching.

Academic Integrity:

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