

# COURSE DETAIL

## DIGITAL SOCIETY: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY, INEQUALITY AND CULTURE

**Country**

United Kingdom - Scotland

**Host Institution**

University of Glasgow

**Program(s)**

University of Glasgow

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Sociology

**UCEAP Course Number**

106

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

DIGITAL SOCIETY: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY, INEQUALITY AND CULTURE

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

DIGITAL SOCIETY

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

8.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

5.30

## **Course Description**

The course examines social dynamics of digital technologies, platforms, and services in society. In order to understand how digital technology features in social life, students study the history of the internet and are introduced to the three main approaches in the social study of technology. It then examines key areas in the structuring of society through human-technology interactions and the array of social practices that surround and give meaning to the use of digital technology. This includes the way in which the digital shapes notions of community and identity, how digital technologies are adapted and used in the context of both the domestic environment and working life, as well as the ways in which the digital has permeated educational policies and discourses about literacy and citizenship. The course also addresses the interweaving of digital technologies with broader questions of social justice and inequality by analyzing the concept and evidence of the digital divide and by critically assessing the opportunities but also challenges posed by AI, algorithms, and broader processes of datafication. The understanding gained about the various social contexts of digital technology forms the basis for students to assess whether digital technology is part of (but not determining) broader social change and transformation. Students are encouraged to critically engage in this debate by drawing on the knowledge about data sources that they have developed during the course as well as course literature, and are introduced to various open data sources that they can draw on such as the PEW internet survey, the Oxford Internet Institute survey, and open government data.

## **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

## **Host Institution Course Number**

SOCIO4121

## **Host Institution Course Title**

DIGITAL SOCIETY: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY, INEQUALITY AND CULTURE

## **Host Institution Course Details**

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/course/?code=SOCIO4121>

**Host Institution Campus**

University of Glasgow

**Host Institution Faculty****Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department**

School of Social and Political Sciences

**Course Last Reviewed**

2019-2020

[Print](#)