

Society & Science



Faculty	Course Type	Credits	Prerequisites	Semester
Mr. Kishore Darak	General	4	None	Any

Brief Overview

This course aims at helping students critically analyse the interaction of science and society. The course will take students through the development of science over the ages and what all constitute the scientific method. The course will force students to think of whether a confluence is possible between science, tradition and religion. From there, the focus will shift to whether science is responsible for wars across the globe, and whether the practice of science is beyond social realities of prejudices.

Course Objectives

Trying to align with the spirit of ‘liberal’ education, the course has been designed keeping in mind the following broad aims:

- Understanding social nature of Science through its historical development.
- Developing a habit of raising meaningful questions and critically thinking on one’s own.
- Understanding the cyclic relationship between ‘development’ of society and science.
- Questioning prevalent models of ‘development’ and searching for alternatives.
- Comprehending unequal ‘benefits’ of science visible in society and analyzing those in more egalitarian frame.
- Enabling thoughtful use of technology.
- Helping the students understand the point of view of the society.
- Moving a step towards ‘scientific attitude’.

Teaching Methodology

This course entails compulsory individual class presentations to be done by the students on various topics, round-table discussion of the units through presentations, reading subject relevant newspaper articles and holding discussions, understanding of various texts presented by famous scientists, historians, etc., carefully watching films, interviews, interaction with practitioners of science, lay-people and field visits.

Requirements

Students are expected to –

- Complete all required reading for each scheduled class as per the course outline,
- Actively participate in class activities and discussions, and
- Complete all evaluative processes for successful course completion!