

Course Code / Title: HS2010 Smart Cities and Society
Pre-requisites: HS1001 Person and Society
No of AUs: 3
Contact Hours: 39

Course Aims

In this course, the aim is to introduce students to the concept of smart cities, including their historical development, key characteristics and the opportunities and challenges they present. With an emphasis on the sociological dimensions of the smart city, students will be able to discuss how issues related to power, inequality, governance and citizenship emerge in this new 'smart' era. Students will analyze the ways in which smart cities have been theorized, and critically assess the discourses around smart cities. By comparing and contrasting different models of smart city development in different regions of the world, students will also be able to widen their perspectives on what 'smart' can come to mean.

Students will develop a critical and reflexive approach to smart city discourse and practice.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Define, describe and classify the different smart city concepts within discourse
2. Describe and judge key contemporary debates around smart cities
3. Recognize and critique characteristics of smart city development, especially through the lens of inequality, power, structure/agency

Course Content

Week 1: Introduction to Smart Cities

Week 2: Making Cities

Week 3: Smart Infrastructure

Week 4: Smart Economy

Week 5: Smart Governance

Week 6: Smart Citizens I

Week 7: Smart Citizens II

Week 8: Understanding Smart Cities Critically & Guided Group Essay Prep

Week 9: The Post-Colonial

Week 10: Aesthetics

Week 11: Case study – Covid 19

Week 12: Film Screening – Coded Bias

Week 13: Course Review and Exam Preparation

Course Assessment

CA1 Class participation : 10%

CA2 Reading memos : 20%

CA3 Group Essay assignment : 20%

Final Examination : 50%

Total -----
100%