

Module Code	:	AP-3401*		
Module Title	:	History and Philosophy of Science and Technology		
Programme	:	Bachelor of Arts		
Type of Module	:	Breadth		
Modular Credits	:	4	Student Workload:	8 – 10 hours per week
			Contact Hours for timetabling:	2 hours per week
Prerequisite	:	None		
Anti-requisite	:	None		
Aims :				
<p>We are living in the age of science and technology; they permeate every aspect of our life. However not many people, including scientists and experts in different technologies, actually spend much time thinking about the impact of science and technology on our life in general. In this course we will closely look at the nature of science and technology, how they inform our life in general, and different problems that arise from the interaction between science, technology and our day to day existence.</p>				
Module Content :				
<p>This module is an introduction to the central issues related to science and technology from a variety of social and philosophical viewpoints. We will be primarily concerned with the distinction between science and technology as it is seen by philosophers and historians: What is science and how does it represent the world? In what sense can it be said to progress? How is technology different, if at all, and how does it figure into the progress of science? How are science and technology related to society and culture? Is a non scientific culture possible? We will briefly look at the causes of the modern scientific and technological revolution and different reactions to it. We will also study different philosophical issues arising from scientific methodology such as a philosophical justification for the scientific principles of induction and causality.</p>				
Assessment :	Examination :	50%	Coursework :	50%
	2 hours		Participation	5%
			Reading quizzes (best five)	10%
			Two essays (10% each)	20%
			Tutorial journals (best five)	15%
Textbook(s)/References :				
Chalmers, A.F. (1999). <i>What is this thing called Science?</i> Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing.				
McErlean, J. (2000). <i>Philosophies of Science: From foundations to contemporary issues</i> . Belmont: Wadsworth.				
Mitcham, C. (1994). <i>Thinking through technology: The path between engineering and philosophy</i> . Chicago: University of Chicago Press.				
Okasha, S. (2002). <i>Philosophy of Science: A very short introduction</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press.				
Rosenberg, A. (2005). <i>Philosophy of Science: A contemporary introduction</i> . New York: Routledge.				
Staff:	Dr Ali Muhamad Rizvi (s2)			

*This module was approved as AP-1405 during Senate in 2009. FASS Board has approved the request to change the module code to AP-3401.