



AK1202 History of Science and Technology 7.5 credits

Teknik- och vetenskapshistoria

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years

Establishment

Course syllabus for AK1202 valid from Spring 2020

Grading scale

A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Education cycle

First cycle

Main field of study

Technology

Specific prerequisites

Applicants registered on a regular KTH programme are eligible. For applicants not registered on a KTH programme: completed upper secondary education.

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Identify major changes in science and technology over time;
- Identify sources and methods used in historical writing and critically assess the validity of arguments in the history of science and technology;
- Describe how central ideas in science and technology, such as discovery, innovation, modernity, risk, etc., have been historically and socially constructed;
- Explain how understanding the historical dimensions of issues with contemporary significance can inform responsible actions in the present.

Course contents

The course considers science and technology in a global historical perspective. It explores how science and technology have been used to make sense of the world, and to control it. The course provides a foundation for further studies in the history of science, technology, and the environment, but also allows students specializing in engineering and the natural sciences to gain a deeper understanding of the historical dimensions of their fields, and a broader perspective on how and why science and technology have become such powerful elements in the modern world.

Disposition

The course involves lectures, discussion sessions and independent work.

Course literature

A selection of articles and book chapters.

Equipment

None

Examination

- INL1 - Assignment Work, 7.5 credits, grading scale: A, B, C, D, E, FX, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

Other requirements for final grade

- Active participation in course activities.
- Approved assignments.

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.