Overview
This course is intended to provide and understanding of the philosophical, theoretical, and empirical foundations of the social research on technology and its interaction with organizations and organizational strategy. The course involves reading and discussion of several streams of research, including information systems, organization theory, operations management, strategy, and international business. The course emphasizes the integration of diverse literatures and the use of different perspectives in research. Students are encouraged to proactively identify one or two research topics, and leverage this course to explore and develop their chosen topics.

Goals:
• Internalize a set of core literatures related to technology, organization, and strategy
• Identify and evaluate a couple of potential research topics for in-depth research
• Integrate different streams of research to form a theoretical foundation for a chosen topic
• Initiate the design and preliminary implementation of the chosen research topic

Activities:
This is a seminar not a lecture course, which means that it is based on active class interaction. Students are expected to engage in the following activities:

• Before each session: preparing to discuss all readings. The student will prepare a one-page summary, which should be submitted to the instructor 1 hour before the class.
• During each session: leading and facilitating class discussion. The student will provide a 15 - 20 minute overview of the important themes and issues raised by the readings, then initiate a discussion of these and related topics for the remainder of the session, and finally close the session in the last 10 minutes of the class.
• After each session: preparing take-away thoughts and reactions. One page take-away thoughts/reactions should be submitted after each session, before the following Monday.
• Completing and presenting Milestones A and B and Final Report.
Grading:
In-class Class Participation: 20%
Summaries and Takeaways: 10%
Milestone A: 20%
Milestone B: 20%
Final Paper: 30%

Accessing Readings:
The school will acquire copies of readings and distribute to students one week before each class.
Part I: Introduction

Session 1: Research Paradigms, Frameworks, and Methods


The following introduces qualitative methods in technology research, which is a focus of the course


Session 2: Conceptualizing Technology


Leonardi, P. M. “When Flexible Routines Meet Flexible Technologies: Affordance, Constraint, and the Imbrication of Human and Material Agencies,” MIS Quarterly (35: 1), 2011, pp. 147-167,


PART II: Technology in Organization

Session 3: Technology Creation


Session 4: Technology Adoption


Student Presentation: Milestone A

Session 5: Technology and Communication


Levina and Orlikowski


Session 6: Technology and Knowledge


PART III: Technology and Strategy

Session 7: Technology and Behavioral Foundations of Strategy


Session 8: Technology Outsourcing - I


Student Presentation: Milestone B

Session 9: Technology Outsourcing - II


Session 10: Technology and International Business


Session 11: Technology and Entrepreneurship


Session 12: Emerging Topics and Wrap Up


Presentation:Final Research Project

Acknowledgement:

Parts I and II (Sessions 1 to 6) of the course are based on the syllabus of the Ph.D. seminar “IT and Organizations” of Professor Natalia Levina from the Stern School of Business of New York University, who has kindly shared her syllabus with me.