

STS 501 Monday 2 to 5PM Fall Term 2017 SYLLABUS
Introduction to Science and Technology Studies
Professor Margaret Schabas Buchanan E358

General Comments

Because we only have a total of ten classes, we will meet for the entire 3 hours (we will have a short break at the midpoint). Some weeks you are to read an entire book (perhaps skim some of the sections) while in others you will read a selection of articles or chapters in a collected volume. It is assumed you already know the seminar work by Thomas Kuhn. Foucault will give us a different rubric, the *episteme*. We will imbibe some general overviews of science (Snyder) and technology (Basalla). Daston and Galison will address the question of objectivity and historical epistemology; Hacking and the collection in Bijker et al., will revolve around the question of social constructionism, and the last work, on agnatology, will include readings on climate change, science policy, feminism, race, etc.

Books

UBC bookstore will have them, but you may find it better buy used versions on-line. Any editions will serve just as well. I will also try to place all the readings on reserve at Koerner library (2-hour loan).

Grading Scheme

Class Participation:	10
Lead-off Discussant:	10
Two précis:	20
Research Essay:	<u>60</u>
	100%

Tentative Schedule

Sept. 11 Preliminaries (please read Thomas S. Kuhn *Structures of Scientific Revolutions* in advance)

Sept 18 Michel Foucault (1970) *The Order of Things*
(skim Ch. 4)

Sept 25 Laura Snyder (2011) *The Philosophical Breakfast Club*

October 2 Lorraine Daston and Peter Galison (1992), "The Image of Objectivity," *Representations* 40: 83-128;
Lorraine Daston (1995), "The Moral Economy of Science," *Osiris* 10: 3-24; Lorraine Daston (2008), "On Scientific Observation," *Isis* 99: 97-110.
(all on jstor)

First Précis Due

October 9 Thanksgiving

October 16 Ian Hacking, (1999) *The Social Construction of What?*

October 23 George Basalla (1988) *The Evolution of Technology* Chs. 1-3

October 30 George Basalla, *The Evolution of Technology* Chs. 4-7 **Second Précis Due**

November 6 Wiebe E. Bijker, Thomas P. Hughes, and Trevor Pinch, eds. (2012) *The Social Construction of Technological Systems*, 2nd ed., I-II

November 13 Bijker et al., eds. *The Social Construction of Technological Systems*, 2nd ed., III-IV

November 20 R. Proctor and L. Schiebinger, eds. (2008) *Agnatology: The Making and Unmaking of Ignorance I*
Research Essay Outline Due

November 27 Proctor and Schiebinger, eds., *Agnatology: The Making and Unmaking of Ignorance II*
Brief Presentations of Research Essay Topic

January 5 **Research Essay Due**

Approximate costs for paperback, as given on Amazon.ca (some are for used versions)

Foucault \$15; Snyder \$20; Hacking \$40; Basalla: \$15
Proctor and Schiebinger: \$25

Total Cost: \$115