

Technology, Politics, Society



Technology has never played a bigger role for questions of democracy, justice, sustainability, and freedom than today. This course provides a chance to understand the *politics* of technology.

Image by marian anbu juwan from Pixabay

Advances in autonomous weapons systems, Chinese infrastructural ventures along a ‘new Silk Road’, data mining by multinational tech companies, and geo-engineering solutions to eventually halt climate change are all examples of large-scale developments that can alter society and international politics in fundamental ways.

TRACKS PROGRAM

In this TRACKS course, Chalmers students get the chance of learning about and critically examining global politics and technological developments from a social science perspective.

The course is studied jointly with students from **University of Gothenburg**, with teachers from both universities. We delve into historical, current, and future technologies, investigating both research and practice.

The course is open to students from all educational programs at Chalmers, but at least 5 students need to have signed up to start the course. A maximum of 15 students can take the course. General learning objectives can be found in the student portal.

SCHEDULE

The course runs in study period 4, starting in March 2022.

The course can be read as 7,5 HEC (part time, **TRA 105**) or 15 HEC (full time, **TRA 125**).

COURSE TASKS

The course aims to provide students with the skills to examine critically the evolving relationship between technology, society and (global) politics, using tools and approaches from history of technology, science and technology studies, and philosophy of technology.

Assignments include a project in interdisciplinary teams, short essays, seminars, exercises, and lectures.

For 15 credits, a longer essay is included.

INTERESTED?

Write a half-page to one-page explanation of why you would like to take the course TRA 105/ TRA 125 and send it along with your CV to course examiners and instructors Karl de Fine Licht (karl.definelicht@chalmers.se) and Helene Ahlborg (helene.ahlborg@chalmers.se). Students are admitted to the course based on their motivation, interests, and merits. Previous studies in social science or humanities (for example MTS courses) are meriting. **Deadline for applications: Nov 26**