The relationship between technology and society has been increasingly paradoxical in our century. If on one hand the technological development has brought great advances in the quality of life and productivity in many regions of the world, on the other hand its omnipresence in all spheres of human life and the different levels of penetration in different areas has also been a source of tensions and criticism. Research in ICT - information and communication technologies - point to a positive contribution of these technologies for social development in various areas of activities, such as health, education, employment and many others. The positive effect is mainly through increased access to information and reduction of communication costs. Internet and mobile phones have great potential for improving health and education systems and in fighting regional and social inequalities. However these benefits are not being fully realized for a number of reasons of a different nature, which can be analyzed from different perspectives.

OBJECTIVES

The aim of this interdisciplinary course is to discuss the different roles that ICT can play in relation to social development. The focus is the Brazilian scenario, but during the course will be extensively discussed examples of other cultures and territories. This theme, which has already been internationally known as ICT4D (Information and Communication Technologies for Development), has produced extensive bibliography that will be widely used during the course.

At the end of the course participants will have had contact with:

- useful concepts to understand the process of social and economic development and the role of information and ICT in the development process;
- new knowledge and skills to assist in the effective planning, development, implementation and management of initiatives and policies of ICT4D

METHODOLOGY

The course will be taught through lectures, case discussions, seminars presented by the students and readings to promote discussions on the adopted literature. The course is structured in 5 meetings covering different topics related to the subject of ICT4D.

GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Participation will be based on frequency and contribution of each student to discussions performed during sessions. Previous reading of the papers related to each session is essential for promoting a higher level discussion expected during the course.
Seminar will happen in every class on the topic of the day, starting from the second class. Students must present one case related to the subject of the session in a given date. Students must bring a case of her/his choice related to the subject of the session. Basic literature will be provided but it is expected that students bring new sources to enrich the discussion on the subject being covered.

Final Project is expected to be a literature review (paper format) of one topic related to the main subject of the course. Students must propose their Project at the end of the first month in a format of pre-project. Final Project is expected to be delivered one week after the last session. Projects can be presented by one single student (or more, depending on the number of students enrolled)

**CONTENT**

Each of the eight classes of the course will cover one subject related to the main topic of the course. Below the list of subjects proposed:

1. ICT4D: overview of the field
2. Global-Local Dialogue: the implementation challenges
3. Open & Reverse Innovation
4. Hacker Ethic
5. Measuring ICT and Development
6. ICT & Financial Inclusion
7. ICT & Civil Society
8. ICT, Government and Social Policies

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Avgerou, C. (2003). The link between ICT and economic growth in the discourse of development. In Organizational information systems in the context of globalization (pp. 373-386). Springer US.


Viale Pereira, Gabriela; Rocha de Oliveira, Leonardo; and Gregianin Testa, Maurício, “Government's Implementation of Information and Communication Technology in Developing

*Other papers can be included in this list of readings