TPFH part 6 | Final Paper on Technology and Sustainability

The final paper is an opportunity to focus on a theme from the course that you found particularly important or interesting. The paper should clearly connect central themes, problems and questions discussed in the course. The paper may, for example, discuss a particular technology or a particular technological system from the perspective of one or several of the theories introduced in the course, discuss different interpretations of the role of technology in society, or analyze representations of technology in popular culture. You will decide the topic for your paper, with feedback from the course coordinators. The assignment has three parts:

- Write your own individual paper
- Give peer-feedback on a course colleague's paper
- Prepare a *pecha kucha* presentation[1] of your paper for the course conclusion on May 29th

The final paper should be five pages (2000–2500 words) in length and include the following:

- A clearly described and motivated issue/challenge/theme/problem in the nexus of technology, power and sustainable development, and a specific research question that connects to this theme. As the paper is relatively short, it is important that the research question is precise and limited in scope.
- An analysis that makes use of relevant theories and themes from the course.
- Discussion and conclusions.
- References to at least 8 of the course readings, including at least two of the course books. Beyond this you are of course free to refer to lectures and other literature. Make sure to make it clear to the reader when you express your own ideas and opinions, and reference your sources when you write about other people's opinions or ideas.

Timeline

April 27 – send focus/theme and research question to jakob.grandin@csduppsala.uu.se
May 18 – upload draft paper for peer-review to www.studentportalen.uu.se
May 22 – comment and peer-review another student's paper (detailed instructions will be posted later)
May 28 – upload final version of the paper to www.studentportalen.uu.se
May 29 – *pecha kucha* presentation and discussion of paper

Assessment criteria

- **Clarity:** the language must be clear, understandable and at a sufficiently high academic standard.
- **Argumentation:** the arguments must be relevant, and should be concise and coherent.
- **Breadth and depth:** the paper should capture the complexities and different viewpoints/interpretations of the area that is discussed.
- **Academic:** arguments and proposals must be anchored in scientific and analytical sources.

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[1] A presentation style where 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each (6 minutes and 40 seconds in total). More info here http://www.presentationzen.com/presentationzen/2007/09/pecha-kucha-and.html and here http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PechaKucha