

## t.NTG - Nanotec and Society

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<b>Person responsible for the course:</b>	Heinrich Kuhn, kuhn
<b>Credits:</b>	1,5
<b>Valid for:</b>	2009/2010
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### Learning objectives:

Nanotechnology (Nanotec) is increasingly penetrating our daily life. Although the majority of the public is unaware of the fact, we are using more and more products based on Nanotechnology. It has now emerged that Nanotec products do not only have advantages but also bear a potential risk to our health, to the environment and the economy. The current debate on the risks of nanoparticles, which has also become known as the Nano-Asbestos debate, illustrates this very well.

This course gives students a sound overview of current developments in the field of Nanotec. The emphasis is not on issues to do with natural sciences but rather on opportunity and risk assessment of Nanotec applications. In particular, the course also deals with the problem that we currently still do not know enough in order to be able to take effective measures. The aim of the course is for students to better understand the complexity of Nanotechnology and its possible impact. To this end, technology assessment methodology is applied in the course.

### Course content:

1. Technology assessment: basic principles of the methodology, historical development, opportunities and limitations of the methodology.
2. Overview of current trends in Nanotechnology.
3. Overview of current technology assessment studies in the field of Nanotec.
4. Trouble spots of Nanotec at the interface of society, economy, law and politics: analysis, evaluation, solutions and possible measures.
5. Sociopolitical, legal and ethical concepts for problem solving - in order to be able to adequately deal with complex issues in the field of Nanotech.

### Previous knowledge:

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### Teaching method:

Type of lesson:	Number of lessons per week:
Lecture	14*2
Tutorial/Practicum	
Group teaching	
Block instruction	
Seminar	

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**Assessment:**

According to the table or as specified in writing by the lecture at the beginning of the semester!

Number	Type	Weighting
	End of term exam	
	Exam during the semester	
	Further assessments	

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**Language of instruction:**

German

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**Instruction material:**

script, additional reading material (TBD)

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**Comments:**

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