Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Spring 2025	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	DATA/SOCI/QREA 265		
Course Title	Science, Society & Self		
Prerequisites	None		
Course Instructor	RICKETTS John	Year Available (Grade Level)	2
Subject Area	Data Science	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	The course is not driven by detail, but by holistic ideas & realizations; these are largely self-evident once you know about them, and put them into practice. There will be lots of group discussion in a safe space. Data, Science and 'science-based advice' play an increasingly important role in our daily lives, from society to business to personal. This course briefly explores science's foundations, limitations, before exploring its application to society & ourselves. We will acquire skills and ways of thinking, as well as practical & simple AI usage, to explore the world, and ourselves. We will put these skills to use, to create real value & a meaningful contribution to the world.
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	None
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	Commercial & Academic
Learning Goals	To give students the tools, credibility, and confidence to engage meaningfully in whatever career path you choose - Better understand science and its influence on the world - Better understand modern society - Better understand human beings - Better skilled at self-articulation - Better skilled at critical thinking - Better skilled at discussion & persuasion - Better skilled at collaboration - Better skilled at AI usage - Less confused and more creative thinking

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1／DP2／DP3／DP4

iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge — Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World — Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration — Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility — Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Discussion, Debate／Group Work			
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	As required			
Use of ICT	As required			
Contents of class preparation and review	As required	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	2 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	3 hours
Feedback Methods	As required			

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
In class participation	40%	
In class quizzes	30%	
Team Project	30%	

Required Textbook(s)	None
Other Reading Materials/URL	Suggested: - Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind by Yuval Noah Harari - Humankind: A Hopeful History by Rutger Bregman Further reading: - Alan Chalmers: What Is This Thing Called Science - An Assessment of the Nature and Status of Science and Its Methods - Thomas S. Kuhn: The Structure of Scientific Revolutions - Marshall McLuhan: Laws of Media - The New Science - Robert J. Shiller: Narrative Economics - Geert Hofstede: Cultures and Organizations - Software of the Mind - Abraham H. Maslow: The Farther Reaches of Human Nature - Beaumont, Berry, Ricketts: VLL publications Documentaries - The Internet is your friend - Adam Curtis: The Century of the Self - Daniel J. Clark: Behind the Curve

Plagiarism Policy	AI usage will inform this course
Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	Imagineering: Creating Value for 2035 - Using the approaches & tools we've explored throughout the course, imagine and explore something that's going to be more important in the world of 2033. - How will you create the situation to improve decisions around this issue? Team Presentation: - What's the idea? - Why is this going to be more important in 2035? - How does this make society better, and without it, worse? - How do you make this happen? Individual Short Essay: Personal feedback - What you believe you've contributed to the team. What have you learned about teamwork and what are your personal priorities to get this value realized by 2035. - No more than a page but no less than ten bullet points: Being concise and clear is important. Guest Speakers: Where possible professionals from diverse fields will share their decision-making experiences

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	What is Science? What's the current view & how did we get here? (Pre-modern to modern view)
Class 2	What is Science? Practitioners view (what actually happens within different types of science)
Class 3	What is Science? Extended views: Criticism & Postmodern view/Non-Western view
Class 4	What is Science? Extended views: Crisis of reproducibility/Big data & AI: back to the future
Class 5	Leaving the familiar: Relativity & quantum mechanics/Maths, maps, & logic: Borges's Library/Hoffman's desktop
Class 6	Getting clarity: Scientific/non-scientific statements
Class 7	Getting clarity:: The role of language – Is 'is' dangerous? E-prime & sanity
Class 8	Getting clarity:: Structure of scientific revolutions: Human after all

Class 9	Science & Society: Covid: a significant moment in history
Class 10	Science & Society: Frameworks for culture: Hofstede
Class 11	Truth in Society: who/what/when/where/why? we ain't seen nothing yet
Class 12	Communication in Society: rational & emotional, understanding media
Class 13	Post-truth society: Are we ready? Are we already there?
Class 14	Media bubbles: divided by design?
Class 15	Narrative matters: a building block of value & utility
Class 16	Sense making/orientation & decisions: Life, but not as we know it
Class 17	Foresight/Unintended consequences: McLuhan's better understanding of media
Class 18	Conspiracy theory: Insights into our world
Class 19	AI/big data in society: "oh lord, protect me from what I want" vs "machines of loving grace"
Class 20	Hands on AI/Narrative Research & Report: "Do your own research!"
Class 21	Hands on AI/Narrative Research & Report: "Do your own research!"
Class 22	Frameworks for self: the map is not the thing, but it helps

Class 23	Frameworks for self: the map is not the thing, but it helps
Class 24	Adjustment (social self): Hierarchies of needs: being honest with ourselves 5 / 5
Class 25	Radical empiricism: Your experience is your data
Class 26	Stretching out of our comfort zones
Class 27	Truth of experience: experience of truth
Class 28	Imagineering (Team): Creating & building value: application of skills, tools & mindset to engage meaningfully with the world
Class 29	Imagineering (Team): Creating & building value: application of skills, tools & mindset to engage meaningfully with the world
Class 30	Imagineering (Team): Creating & building value: application of skills, tools & mindset to engage meaningfully with the world