



## Seminar:

# Recent US-American Philosophy of Technology

Sommer 2011  
BTU Cottbus

Prof. Dr. Christian Lotz

### Tentative Schedule (last **UPDATE**: June 22, 2011)

Number	Date	Topic	Reading 1	Background Reading	Assignments
<b>Introduction to the seminar</b>					
1	April 7	no class because of lecture in Köln			
<b>Device paradigm and focal practices: Borgmann</b>					
2	April 14	The Device Paradigm	Borgmann, Technology and the Character of Contemporary Life, chapter 8-11	Achterhuis, chapter 1	
3	April 21	Extended session			
4	April 28	no class because of lecture in Reykjavik			
5	May 5	Focal Practices	Borgmann, Technology and the Character of Contemporary Life, chapter 9+23-24		
<b>The post-phenomenological perspective: Ihde</b>					
6	May 11	Technology and the Lifeworld	Ihde, Technology and the Lifeworld, chapter 1-3	Achterhuis, chapter 5	
7	May 18	Phenomenology of Technics	Ihde, Technology and the Lifeworld, chapter 5+6		
8	May 26	no class because of lecture in Messkirch			
9	June 2	Feiertag			
<b>The Critical Theory of technology: Feenberg</b>					

Achterhuis,

10	June 8	Technology and Transition	Feenberg, Transforming Technology, chapter 1-2	chapter 3
11	June 16	Extended session		
12	June 22	Extended session		
<b>The anti-essentialist discourse: Haraway</b>				
13	June 29	Critical Theory of Technology	Feenberg, Transforming Technology, chapter 3 (+&, voluntary)	Achterhuis, chapter 4
14	July 7	no class because of lecture in Paderborn	-----	-----
15	July 13	Technology and Human Identity	Haraway, A Cyborg Manifesto	

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### Class Meetings:

Days: Wednesdays  
Time: 3:30pm-5pm  
Place: LG10/134k

### Office:

Phone: TBA  
Place: Lehrgebaeude 10, 134k  
Hours: Thursdays 10am-12pm

### Other Contact:

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## Description

In contrast to European philosophical movements – for which technology became one of the most central topics during the last century – US-American analytic philosophy rarely discussed technology as a philosophical issue. During the last three decades though, especially influenced by anthropology and phenomenology, philosophy of technology became more central within the mainstream philosophical discourse in the US. We will read and discuss major proponents of this discourse.

## Texts

Ihde, Don., *Technology and the Lifeworld: from Garden to Earth*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press 1990  
Borgmann, Albert, *Technology and the Character of Contemporary Life*. University of Chicago Press 1984  
Haraway, Donna, *Simians, Cyborgs and Women: The Re-invention of Nature*, London: Free Association Books 1991 (Kapitel 8 und 10)  
Feenberg, Andrew, *Transforming Technology, A Critical Theory Revisited*, Oxford: Oxford University Press 2002

Recommended introduction:

Achterhuis, Hans, *American Philosophy of Technology. The Empirical Turn*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press 2001

## Conditions

- Participation
- Preparations of Readings

## Leistungsnachweis

Hausarbeit

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