WHAT IS A HTHT MINOR?
A HTHT-minor fits within the UT profile: High Tech, Human Touch. The minor is offered in English and accessible for both national and international students. The goal of the HTHT-minor is to illuminate specific societal themes for which the UT develops High Tech Human Touch solutions. These solutions are created by conducting high-quality research. Both the form and the content of the minors are High Tech Human Touch (multidisciplinary) and are profiling for the student.

The UT offers most HTHT-minors in a coherent package of 2 (30 EC). There are also HTHT minors of 15 EC that do not belong to a package. You can choose one of these minors and combine this with one minor of a package. If possible, you can even choose 2 minors from different packages.

MINOR INFORMATION
Philosophy of Science and Technology
This 15 EC module analyses and evaluates the influence of science and technology on humans and society. In the first weeks, you will be introduced to the main approaches and theories from the history of philosophy. This will enable you to reflect more systematically and critically on science and technology and their social roles. But rather than merely studying the philosophical tradition in itself, or aiming to understand technology in general, the minor subsequently aims to develop your skills to analyse specific technologies and technological practices. We offer you philosophical tools to address questions like: Which view of science is underlying technological research projects developing, for example, organs-on-a-chip or brain-computer interfaces? How will wearable technologies like Google Glass and Hololens change and shape our social interactions? Will we be able to maintain traditional ideas about privacy in an age of exponential increase of information and
communication technologies? Should society allow for new forms of genetic modification of human beings? How can our society and culture incorporate and shape those technologies? The acquired perspectives and insights from philosophy set the stage for the final project. In a so-called Philosophy of Technology Lab you will work in a multidisciplinary team to identify and answer philosophical and ethical questions concerning a specific technology in development.

The module consists of the following components:

- Philosophical Theories and Methods (5 EC) - offers a high-speed introduction in the history of philosophy.
- Controversies and Uncertainties in Science and Engineering (2 EC) - discusses topics from philosophy of science in a context of research on new technologies.
- Cyborgs, Hybrids and Posthumans (2 EC) - focuses on how technology influences and constitutes human nature and human existence and on how emerging technologies seem to blur the boundaries between humans and machines.
- Technology, Ethics and Society (2 EC) - focuses on how to assess the ethical and societal desirability of new and emerging technologies and how to analyse ethical controversies.
- Philosophy of Technology Lab (4 EC) – in this project students work in groups to philosophically analyse technologies developed by researchers at the University of Twente. They will identify and answer philosophical and ethical issues associated with these technologies, but also investigate how technologies impact certain philosophical assumptions.

What former students said about this module

- “The technology and society aspects give the whole of philosophy a more practical and tangible experience, philosophy becomes less vague and the everyday application and usefulness of philosophy becomes clear.”
- “Broadened my horizon; lots of variation in subjects, teachers, methods.”
- “Refreshingly disorienting, letting students question their beliefs and preconceptions.”
- “The group-project showed us how different projects at this university are presented and realized. We saw how current science influences the future and what the pros and cons from this development are.”
- “An extremely practical application of a very theoretical topic! Actually the most practical module I followed during my bachelor.”

My touch: "Making sense of technology in a social context"

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