



Gerontechnology - aging and digitalization I

3 higher education credits, Third cycle (Preliminary Version 1)

Content

Digitization is considered to lead to profound changes in how we consider old people as patients, care receivers, citizens and consumers. Digitalization is a process that allows for new models and concepts that in turn lead to new services and new ways of delivering services. It is characterized by digitizing artefacts already in use and new artefacts integrated in health care and daily life in a more systematic and complex way. For the aging population this will lead to new opportunities but also new challenges. What are the consequences for older persons?

In the first part of the course (module 1) the student will put focus on how the digitalization of the society impacts on older people's lives, how older people are using (or not using) the digital tools today, the potentials and pitfalls in the future development (both in short and long-term), and a special focus on how older people can proactively participate in design and innovation of the digital tools and services they will be using.

Specifically, these areas will be covered

- Introduction to the area of gerontechnology
- Orientation in central discourses and strands of the developments within digitalization and digital transformation of services, both in general and with a special focus on the participants' own area of research
- Discussion and analysis of how this development is affecting and will be affecting older people
- Discussion and analysis of different ways of how to include the users in the development and design of the systems and innovation of new and individualized services.

Course leaders & teachers:

Peter Anderberg (Coordinator) BTH

Britt Östlund KTH

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Contact

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Schedule

v40	2/10-3/10	Internat, Course Start
v42	16/10-17/10	Online seminar/Course Module I
v44	30/10-31/10	Online seminar/Course Module II
v46	13/11-14/11	Online seminar/Course Module III
v48	27/11-28/11	Online, Final seminar IV

Course plan

Tuesday, Oct 2			
13:00	Welcome to the course!	About the course and SWEAH	
14:00	"My gerontechnology"	Teachers and researchers give a short introduction to gerontechnology from their personal view and within their discipline and research area. (Medicine, technology, sociology, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, more?)	Alla
15:00	Coffee break		
15:30	Gerontechnology as a research discipline	Concepts and strands of research within gerontechnology	BÖ
16:30	Digitalization & Digital Health	What is digitalization/digitization from a technological, societal and health perspective. Where is technology today and what is waiting around the corner?	PA
19:00	Dinner		
Wednesday, Oct 3			
9:00	A&D in Numbers	What do we know about how and to what extent older people are using digital tools today.	TL
9:45	Designing technology for older people	The connection between design of technologies and the images of older people and digitization of later life with focus on the social context.	BÖ
10:30	Coffee Break		
11:00	Design and user ethics	Promoting healthy activity and participation by tailoring personal digital support. Readiness and expectations for a sustainable usage of digital services	LN
11:45	Digital tools in clinical practice	Attitudes and acceptance of welfare technology. Mobile technology to identify health risks and virtual reality applications	AMF
12:30	Digital tools for cognitive support	Technology support for improving quality of life and sustaining function for older people with cognitive impairments	CM

V42	Online seminar/CM I Sociogerontechnology	Sociogerontechnology is a new branch of Gerontechnology aiming at studies of later life in digitized societies. Theories and methods to study technology in context and to apply this knowledge into artefacts and systems.	BÖ
V44	Online seminar/CM II Digitalization and personalisation	Inclusion of the users in the development and design of the systems and innovation of new and individualized services. Ethics. Personalisation	LN
V46	Online seminar/CM III Digital health	Digital tools as a support for health and quality of life among older people	CM AMF
V48	Online, Final seminar IV My Gerontechnology	Students present and discuss the gerontechnological perspective within their own research area	PA JB

Course literature and other teaching material

N. Oudshoorn, T. Pinch (eds.) 2003, *How Users Matter, The Co-construction of Users and Technology*, Cambridge, MA, US.

- Recommended readings are the Introduction chapter and chapter 3.

Prendergast, D. & Garattini, C. (eds) (2015) *Aging and the Digital Life Course*. New York: Berghahn Books.

- Recommended readings are Part 2 and 3.

Östlund, B., Olander, E., Frennert, O. & Jonsson, O. STS-inspired design to meet the challenges of modern ageing. Welfare technology as a tool to promote user driven innovations or another way to keep older users hostage? *Technological Forecasting & Social Change* Vol.93 pp.82-90. April 2015.