

OSLOMET

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Digital revolution? Social science perspectives on technology in the health and social care sector

OSLO METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY
STORBYUNIVERSITETET



Digitalization: a revolution?

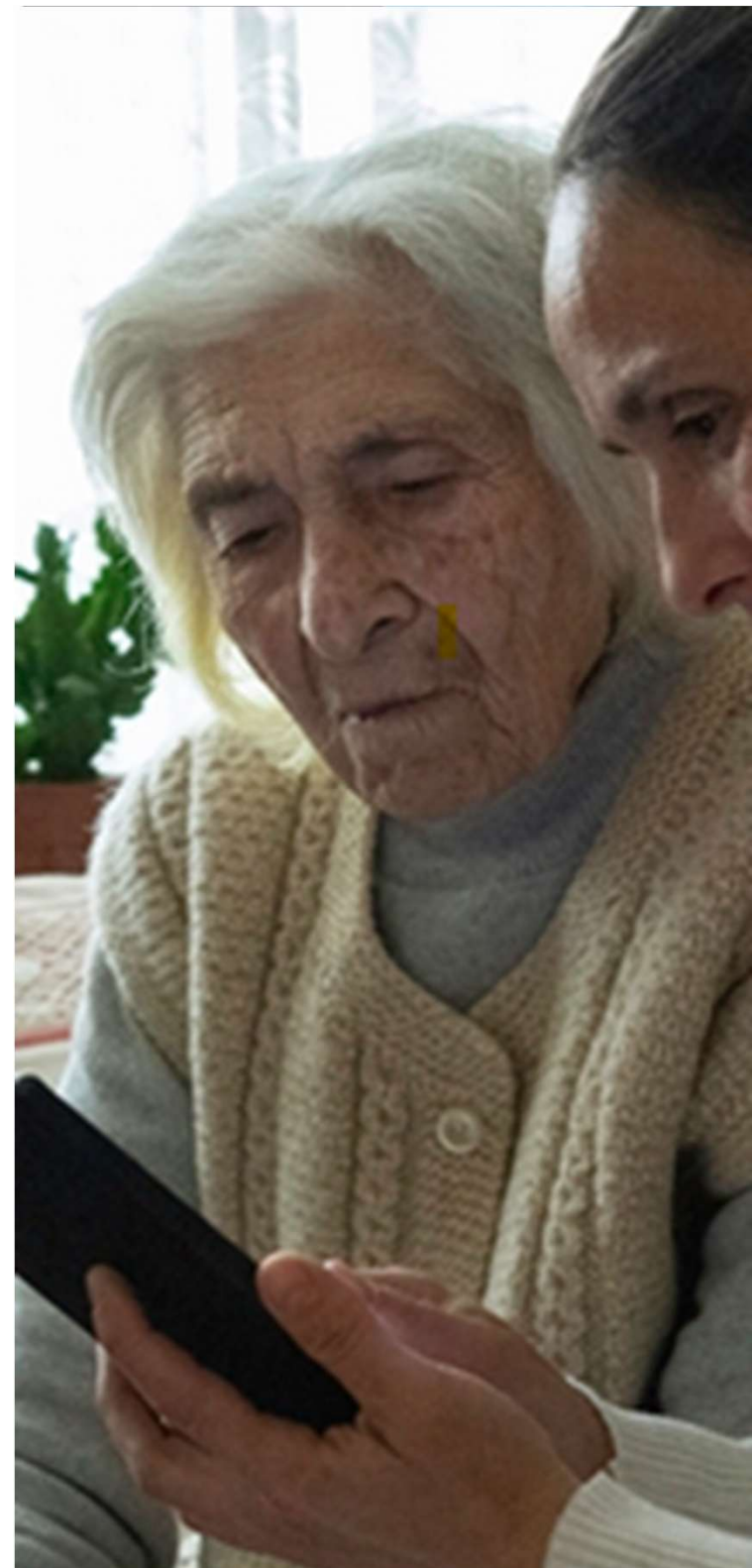
- Digitalization is called the fourth industrial **revolution** because the changes that digitalization caused are *rapid, far-reaching and transforms entire systems*, including *how people interact* with each other.
- Digitalization includes AI, robotics, automation, smart houses and more



Relevant for older people?

- In many respects! Positive and negative
- support, assisted living, social connections, reduces need for traveling
- exclusion, abuse, climate?!

→ Fascinating and relevant new field of science



During the course

- Discussions about how technology and digitalization influence a wide range of social conditions
- But also how social conditions influence technology and digitalization
- Focus is on digitalization of health and social services, and on the service providers and the recipients
- How the adoption of new technologies are influenced by legal, political, economical and organizaional frameworks.



Learning outcomes



After the course, you have...

- Advanced knowledge of the intended and unintended consequences of digitalization processes
- in-depth understanding of key societal challenges and opportunities related to the implementation of new technology
- specialized insight into various theoretical perspectives on technology and digitalization



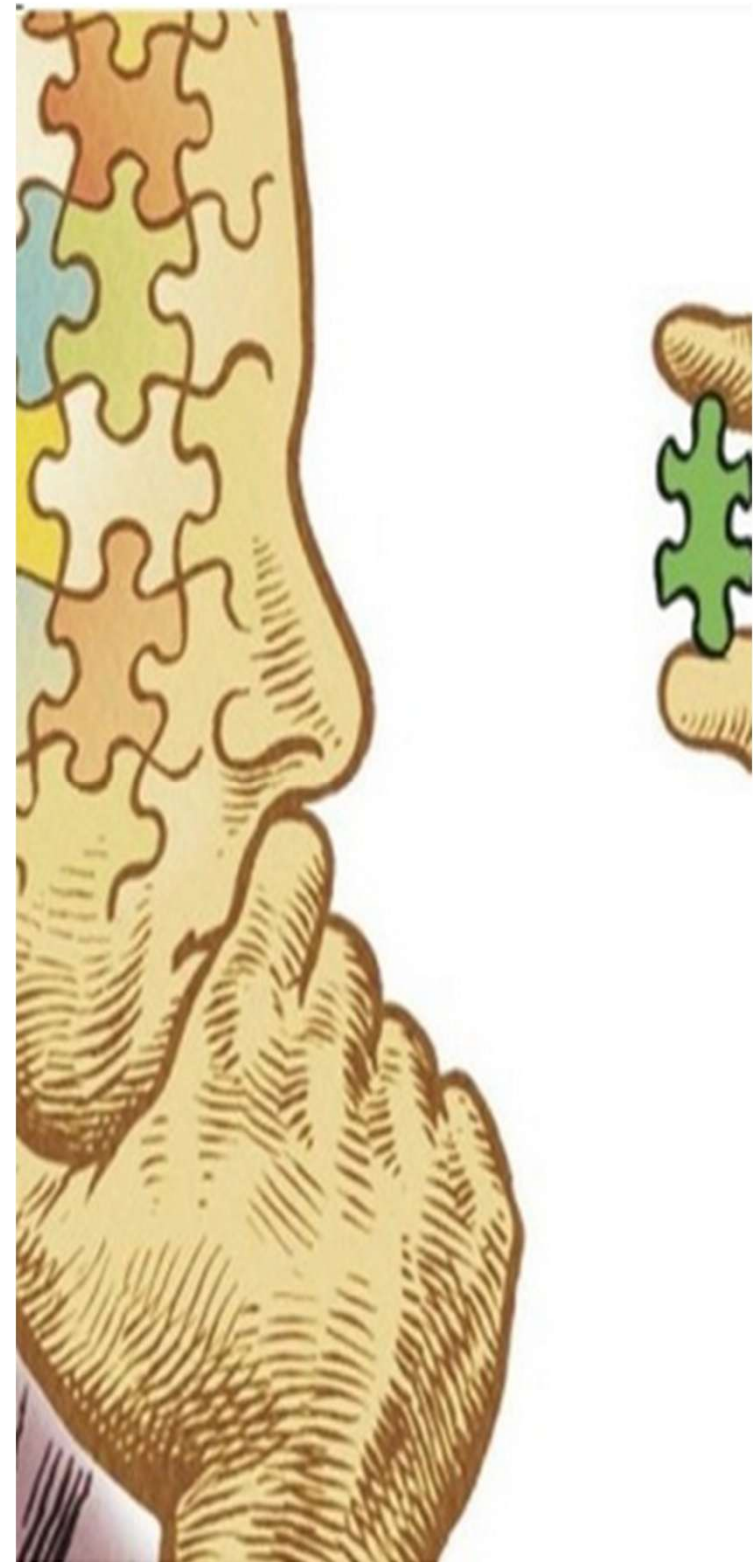
You can...

- Analyze complex development, implementation, and usage processes
- identify challenges and opportunities in the implementation of specific new technologies
- apply various analytical strategies to study technology and digitalization within the welfare state's health and social services



After the course, you can...

- think critically about the development, implementation, regulation, and use of technology
- understand the role of society in technological development and the role of technology in societal development
- contribute critically and constructively to change processes where technology is introduced in health and social services



Organization

- Teaching takes place with physical attendance on the OsloMet campus, and the learning approach alternates between lectures, student presentations of various texts, group work, and discussions.

In 2025:

- 6 lectures of 4 hrs between 17/11 and 10/12, plus group work



Assessment

- By means of a written paper; an essay based on the mini-research project from the coursework requirement. In the essay, the student must apply theory to analyze the findings of the mini-research project.

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Facts

- **NordMaG contact person** for the course
 - Erik Børve Rasmussen, professor
 - erik-borve.rasmussen@oslomet.no
- **Application timeline: apply until April 1 for the course in the fall**
- **10 ECTS**



OsloMet opportunities for master's thesis

NorLAG Nationally representative, population-based, and stratified, comprising over 11,000 individuals born between 1922 and 1966. data collected in 2002/03, 2007/08 2017 and 2024

Aims to provide knowledge about variation and life-course change by studying behavior and transitions in four key domains:

- Work and Retirement
- Family and generations
- Mental health and quality of life
- Health and care



Facts

- **NordMaG contact person for the NorLAG data**
 - Marja Aartsen, research professor
 - marja.aartsen@oslomet.no
- **No application timeline**

