

**POST-ASSESSMENT 1**  
**STS 201: Nanotechnology and Society**  
*Section 84405 – C. Tahan*

**22 students in the class, received 20 POST-assessments**

**Received 23 PRE-assessments**

Please rate your comfort level with the following topics.	Very Comfortable	Comfortable	Slightly Comfortable	Not Comfortable
1. The science of nanotechnology.	<b>3/20 (15%)</b> <b>PRE: 0%</b>	<b>16 (80%)</b> <b>17%</b>	<b>1 (5%)</b> <b>48%</b>	<b>0%</b> <b>35%</b>
2. Any science or engineering field.	<b>5 (25%)</b> <b>36 %</b>	<b>10 (50%)</b> <b>36%</b>	<b>5 (25%)</b> <b>28%</b>	<b>0%</b> <b>0%</b>
3. Science and society issues.	<b>7 (35%)</b> <b>21%</b>	<b>10 (50%)</b> <b>42%</b>	<b>3 (15%)</b> <b>33%</b>	<b>0%</b> <b>1%</b>
4. Nanotechnology and society.	<b>10 (50%)</b> <b>0%</b>	<b>9 (45%)</b> <b>22%</b>	<b>1 (5%)</b> <b>43%</b>	<b>0%</b> <b>35%</b>

**Circle your answer to the questions below or reply in longhand.**  
**Feel free to comment, especially if you don't understand something.**

**Bio stuff**

5. You are a: Woman (**5**) Man (**15**)

<b>A</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>M</b>

<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>U</b>	
<b>V</b>	

6. What is your year? (actual year, not by credits)

Freshman (**3**)    Sophomore (**9**)    Junior (**2**)    Senior (**3**)    Senior++

7. What is your major (or majors)?

<b>A</b>	<b>Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Zoology</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Pharmacy</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>Com Dis</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>Journalism and Sociology</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>Biochemistry</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>Computer Science</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Biochemistry</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>Computer Science</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>Computer Science</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>Nuclear Engineering</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Biochemistry</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>Marketing-Business</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>Botany</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Chemical Engineering</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>Biology, Zoology, possibly Biology and Conservation and Atmos.&amp;Oceanic Sci.</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>Biochemistry</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>Business</b>
<b>U</b>	
<b>V</b>	

**Class stuff.**

8. Summarize the class, as you have perceived it, now that it's (almost) over. (2-3 sentences)

<b>A</b>	<b>Nanotech-lite, an intro to nano-science, society and how it reacts (should react to nano).</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>An overview of several aspects of the science of nanotechnology itself. As well as some general societal issues concerning it.</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>An overview of nanotechnology and how science affects society.</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>We learned various applications of nanotech and the implications on society.</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>An overview of what nanotech is, societal impacts and hazards, applications in the future.</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>The reading of articles about nanotechnology from many viewpoints and a little science behind it.</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>A very interesting and thought provoking class that discusses the impact of technology on society. You get to see how you have been affected as well.</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>We started off by learning what nanotech is. Then we focused on societal issues and presentations.</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>A class to understand how nanotechnology, and other sciences, do, or will, influence society through an understanding of nanotechnology as a field of science.</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>How nanotechnology relates to society and a short intro on nano with a more in depth project.</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>The first sections are a general look into nanotechnology, then we went into the societal impacts of current technology and applied them to nanotech. The end of the semester on research projects.</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>A broad range of nanotech topics and debates are covered. While not mathematically rigorous, it helps to have some interest in technology, pro or anti.</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Class was entertaining at times. The talks at the end were very interesting.</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>We've spent some time on the science of nanotechnology and quantum dots. We've also explored societal issues of technology and specifically nanotechnology.</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>AiSS(?)an, 3 days a week. Learned about nanotechnology. Richard Dean Anderson's post-maggyver work.</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>An overview of fields of nanotechnology and current research. Discussion on implications on society in business, military, and worldly relations.</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>This class was an interesting overview of the broad field of nanotechnology which included attempts to define nanotech as well as point out its benefits and drawbacks in application, production (?), and impacts</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>I really enjoyed the class. Not only did I learn about what advances have been achieved (or will be soon), but also the social implications towards using/ creating technology.</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>This class goes over technology of the last hundred years (approx) and focuses specifically on nanotechnology. Major issues involve evolution of technology, political involvement, and social effects.</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>This class gave me a good overview of the science of nanotech and its societal implications. I now feel better about current trends in the field.</b>
<b>U</b>	
<b>V</b>	

9. Why did you originally take this class?

<b>A</b>	<b>Souder very cool, had humanities credit.</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>SS credits</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>It is a humanities and sounds interesting.</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>Science based humanities credit.</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>To gain and appreciate some knowledge of nanotech.</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>I thought it sounded interesting.</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>Sounded interesting.</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>I wanted to learn more about nanotech.</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Sounded interesting and fulfilled a requirement.</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>I need social science credits and this looked fun.</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>I was holding it for a friend and he decided not to take it, so I figured it was interesting</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>To satisfy a graduation requirement, but it looked interesting.</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Only humanities course that had something to do with science.</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>Sounded very interesting for a humanities credit, wanted to know more.</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>I needed a humanities credit.</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>To get humanities credit.</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>It was the only class that fit into my schedule that would count toward L&amp;S</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>To fulfill a soc. Science requirement. Plus it sounded interesting.</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>Humanities credit. Class sounded interesting.</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>Interest in technology</b>
<b>U</b>	
<b>V</b>	

10. If you could go back in time, would you take the class again?

Yes, Definitely (8)    Yes (9)    Maybe (2)    No (1)    No, Definitely Not

**O (no) It was between this class and a class in the theater department about costumes. I would take the costumes class.**

Yes, with reservations:

11. Would you take it again if it didn't fulfill some requirement?

Yes, Definitely (2)    Yes (8)    Maybe (4)    No (4)    No, Definitely Not (2)

12. Would you recommend the class to another student if it is offered again?

Yes, Definitely (10)    Yes (7)    Maybe (3)    No    No, Definitely Not

Yes, with reservations:

13. Has your knowledge of the science of nanotechnology improved because of this course?

Yes, Definitely (14)    Yes (6)    Maybe    No    No, Definitely Not

Yes, with comment:

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**D Knew very little about it and I was surprised by how much there is**

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**M It has improved, although it's still not clear what nanotech actually is**

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**T Yes, I didn't really know much at all before**

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14. Has your knowledge of what nanotechnology is improved because of this course?

Yes, Definitely (**14**)    Yes (**6**)    Maybe    No    No, Definitely Not

Yes, with comment:

15. Has the course made you more (or less) concerned with the societal implications of technology? (**Bad worded question!**)

Much More (**3**)    More (**11**)    No Change (**5**)    Less (**1**)    Much Less

16. How well has the course prepared you to explain, in general, what nanotechnology is all about to someone else?

Extremely Well (**5**)    Very Well (**12**)    Moderate (**3**)    Passable    Very Little

Comment:

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**I Provides a basic, layman's definition as well as an in-depth definition.**

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17. Do you think that "Nanotechnology and Society" is a valuable field of intellectual pursuit?

Yes, Definitely (**7**)    Yes (**11**)    Maybe (**2**)    No (**1**)    No, Definitely Not

Comment, please:

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**I Both interact on many levels.**

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**K Some people (Winner) go over board, but it is definitely valuable**

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**O It needs to be taken into careful consideration**

---

**Q There is no doubt that nanotech will be pursued, so we must be aware of its effects and keep a watchful eye**

---

**S There are many advantages to nanotech and it is important to know how it will affect me**

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18. Before the course, were you planning to pursue a career in a science or engineering field?

Yes, Definitely (**12**)    Yes (**3**)    Maybe (**2**)    No (**3**)    No, Definitely Not

19. ...in nanotechnology?

Yes, Definitely      Yes      Maybe (3)      No (12)      No, Definitely Not (5)

20. Has the course encouraged you to pursue a career in a nanotech-related (science or engineering) field?

Yes, Definitely      Yes (1)      Maybe (8)      No (8)      No, Definitely Not (2)

21. Has the course encouraged you to keep an eye out for opportunities and relations to nanotechnology in whatever field you were planning on pursuing?

Yes, Definitely (5)      Yes (10)      Maybe (4)      No (2)      No, Definitely Not (1)

**Q      More aware of it now. More aware of false claims to being nano.**

22. Has the course encouraged you to pursue a career in science and technology studies, history of science, social sciences, or a related field?

Yes, Definitely      Yes      Maybe (5)      No (11)      No, Definitely Not (5)

23. Has the course encouraged you to become active in the political aspects of science policy?

Yes, Definitely      Yes (6)      Maybe (7)      No (6)      No, Definitely Not (1)

24. Do you feel that the public has a role to play in the direction of public nanotechnology funding?

Yes, Definitely (1)      Yes (8)      Maybe (7)      No (1)      No, Definitely Not

**K      The public are inherently ignorant, I wouldn't give them a very large role.**

**Q      Only if the public can be well informed**

**R      Yes, via communication with state and national government.**

**S      If nanotech really takes off, there will be probably private investments (stocks, etc)**

25. Did your perspective on science, technology, and societal implications change as a result of this course?

Yes, Definitely (1)      Yes (13)      Maybe (3)      No (2)      No, Definitely Not (1)

Comment:

**Q      Already had some of awareness of science and society from previous classes and**

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**existing interests.**

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**R Before the course, I thought any/all technological improvements were good. Now I understand more of the social issues of new technology.**

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26. Should the class have been more challenging?

Yes, Definitely      Yes (1)      Maybe (3)      No (13)      No, Definitely Not (3)

Comment:

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**I It was perfect**

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**M Humanities courses should not be challenging**

---

**R I liked the pace, but others may have felt it was too easy.**

---

27. Could the class have been significantly better?

Yes, Definitely      Yes (1)      Maybe (8)      No (11)      No, Definitely Not

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**Q Needs more interesting readings and more clear scheduling**

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28. Think about future versions of this class for moment. What would you change to improve it?

Structure of the class (groups, in-class activities, etc.?)

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**A Decent structure.**

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**B No change**

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**C Participation grades**

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**D -**

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**E The projects were a big help and allowed us to cover a wide variety of topics.**

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**F Maybe another presentation.**

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**G This is currently a good arrangement.**

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**H Have a few days where we go over the readings as an entire class instead of in small groups.**

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**I More full class discussion**

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**J -**

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**K Less of the read -> do worksheet routine**

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**L More class discussion, less worksheet activities.**

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**M I would have more group activities, less teacher involvement**

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**N I liked the breakdown of groups in class.**

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**O Good an't(?)**

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**P More town meeting type things**

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**Q More interesting readings. Small group disc w/ the worksheets were beneficial. Debates helped get general idear about where due people or groups stood – that was helpful.**

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**R More in-class debates/discussions**

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- 
- S** **Would've liked to see more group work, we had groups in this course but never really did anything with them**
- 
- T** **Keep same (small discussions w/ groups)**
- 
- U**
- 
- V**
- 

Do you think a more lecture-oriented class would have worked better?

- 
- A** **no**
- 
- B** **Not really, the combination of the two was good**
- 
- C** **no**
- 
- D** **No, discussion is good.**
- 
- E** **No**
- 
- F** **No**
- 
- G** **No, but improved planning for discussions would be good.**
- 
- H** **No. The number of lectures was good enough to cover all materials that needed to be covered.**
- 
- I** **No, the discussion based material worked the best**
- 
- J** **No, I think the smaller discussions were much more valuable and applicable.**
- 
- K** **No, I enjoyed the discussion atmosphere.**
- 
- L** **No.**
- 
- M** **Yes, it would make me understand nanotech better**
- 
- N** **No, the interactive style was much more beneficial.**
- 
- O** **I don't know**
- 
- P** **No, I think it was good to have us think for ourselves on positions. It made me figure out where I stand on issues.**
- 
- Q** **Some of the more science based aspects are taught beter in lecture format. This was done for the main part. But implications on society is better in discussion format.**
- 
- R** **No. Nanotech is changing so fast, it'd be bad to try and follow a pre-established lecture schedule.**
- 
- S** **Some lecture is good, but I learned more doing independent research from doing the final paper and from watching presentations**
- 
- T** **No**
- 
- U**
- 
- V**
- 

Nano-related aspect (more science? Less? Different focus? ?)

- 
- A** **Slightly more science – maybe around intro-chemistry level.**
- 
- B** **More science, not hardcore boring physics-y stuff, but yeah**
- 
- C** **Discuss nanoproducs currently available**
- 
- D** **-**
- 
- E** **Just right, any more science and it would not have been understood.**
-



<b>F</b>	<b>No, more science would require a prerequisite, or maybe it would be a good idea to require some science background.</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>The balance is good, individual project presentations were useful in expanding nanotopics.</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>The amount of science was good. Maybe a little bit more would be ok.</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>More science -&gt; the scifi type material was entertaining</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>More science maybe</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>It balanced well.</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>The science aspect was about the right depth.</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Should have more science</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>About the same amount of science b/c its important to know but difficult to understand well in such a short time</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>More science.</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Good amt – less politics, more business, environmental and military stuff (all stuff in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half was more interesting)</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>A little more science would have been helpful for me. However, keep that extra science basic and concept over equations.</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>Possibly a little background science.</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>No, good mix of science + philosophy</b>
<b>U</b>	
<b>V</b>	

Society related aspect (more? Less? ?)

<b>A</b>	<b>I wasn't a fan so much, but it's good.</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>neh</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>This was fine</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>More specifically nano-related articles if possible</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>Just right, it allowed us to gain/appreciate what it can do and hazards nanotech has. Plus we didn't have to have a complete understanding of nanotech to see societal implications.</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>No, it was an appropriate amount.</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>Nope, I felt this was sufficient.</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>Less or the same.</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Good amount</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>Same amount</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>It balanced well.</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>More, from different viewpoints</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Less, (just my opinion)</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>I would say about the same</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>Less stupid paper for us to read. Another comment about the coursepack -&gt; why don't any of the coursepaks on this campus have page number labeled table of contents? Every time I have to hunt back and forth for an article #19 which 1) before 20 after is, but god knows where.</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>More science in biological and chemical fields</b>

- 
- Q** Fairly good balance.
- 
- R** Spend a little less time on it.
- 
- S** Would like to hear more about society, but since nanotech is so undeveloped I don't think we can.
- 
- T** Good amount
- 
- U**
- 
- V**
- 

Were the research projects and presentations a good idea? How could they have been improved?

- 
- A** Fewer papers would be good – even if the fewer ones were longer.
- 
- B** Yes, very helpful
- 
- C** Yes. No improvements.
- 
- D** Research projects were educational.
- 
- E** Excellent.
- 
- F** Yes. I think these were the best part. They could have been better if the topics/questions were more specific and written better.
- 
- G** Yes, more time for presentations.
- 
- H** Yes, they could be improved if they were a little bit more specific. I felt like a lot of the presentations were very general and therefore light on information.
- 
- I** Very good idea -> perhaps more structured/outlined requirements and due dates.
- 
- J** The presentations were a good idea. Interesting and seemed to give some added purpose to the projects.
- 
- K** Yes, more clearly explain the grading.
- 
- L** Good idea
- 
- M** Yes, very good. I learned a lot.
- 
- N** Yes, those were good b/c it provided a broad range of study on nanotech
- 
- O** Yes
- 
- P** Yes, the presentations were good, but I don't remember hardly any of the science of the projects. It's a lot to take in in a few weeks.
- 
- Q** Needed better direction and more clear goals.
- 
- R** Yes. I learned a lot about my topic, and a bit about everyone else's. I would have liked them to be longer (I had to cut out a lot of information)
- 
- S** Definitely a good idea.
- 
- T** Yes, give a chance to go in depth on specific nano topics
- 
- U**
- 
- V**
- 

Problems with the instructor, suggestions? (be honest!)

- 
- A** Not really
- 
- B** Nah dude, Charlie's cool
- 
- C** no
- 
- D** He's terribly slow at grading stuff. Many of us don't even know what our grade
-

	is.
E	-
F	<b>It would be nice to know more of the syllabus in advance, but I understand it was a new class and the online stuff was really helpful for knowing assignments.</b>
G	<b>Not well prepared for some classes.</b>
H	<b>Responding to emails faster would have been nice.</b>
I	<b>None...honestly</b>
J	<b>None</b>
K	<b>He tended to go off into different fields when walking, but this was just as informative as the original topic. Charlie was an excellent instructor.</b>
L	<b>Just need to polish your lecture technique by involving students more.</b>
M	<b>Instructor was a cool guy; he kept things interesting, even in the societal stuff</b>
N	<b>No real complaints, sometimes maybe expected more science knowledge out of us then should have been assumed</b>
O	<b>No</b>
P	<b>I would have liked more biological and chemical background so we would talk more in those fields. I am sick of quantum dots.</b>
Q	<b>Try and be a bit more organized and be a little quicker with paper returns. (?), good job for first time w/ this course.</b>
R	<b>I liked him, but he had a problem with motivating the class to speak or give their opinions.</b>
S	-
T	<b>Very knowledgeable and easy to deal with</b>
U	
V	

29. Any other suggestions?

A	<b>Make more STS classes.</b>
B	<b>L, U, E = 42</b>
C	<b>no</b>
D	<b>Offer this class again!</b>
E	-
F	-
G	-
H	-
I	<b>Videos are good.</b>
J	-
K	-
L	-
M	-
N	<b>Good class.</b>
O	<b>Fix the coursepaks! Put page numbers in them! Nothing is more frustrating than hunting around for an article that you know you don't want to read anyway.</b>
P	<b>Very informative class, learned a lot, good focus</b>

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**Q** -

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**R** -

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**S** -

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**T** **Keep the course around b/c as nanotech becomes more prominent in society more people should learn about it**

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**U**

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**V**

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