This course provides students with an introduction to how science and technology have influenced politics, culture and society during the 20th and 21st Centuries. Classes will mix lectures with class discussions. Students are expected to read approximately 75 pages per week.

**Grading:**

- Attendance: 15%
- Question of the Day: 10%
- Quizzes (5): 25%
- Individual or Group Project 15%
- Midterm: 15%
- Final: 20%

- Students with an “A” average on the last day of classes need not take the final.
- Students who sleep in class will be counted as absent.
- Students who use their cell phones or computers for socializing during class will be counted as absent.
- Students are expected to adhere scrupulously to the Georgia Tech honor code. CHEATING and PLAGIARISM are serious offenses and will not be tolerated in this class. They violate institute regulations. For more information, please see the code of student conduct:
  
  http://www.policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-affairs/code-conduct

**Learning Outcomes:** Students will…

- Gain an understanding of topics in the history and sociology of science and technology including ethical behavior in science and medicine, high risk technologies, technology and security, pollution and global medical inequalities.

- Improve their knowledge about current issues and debates in the history and sociology of science and technology including debates about global warming, science education, fossil fuel supplies.

- Understand, synthesize, and analyze the major themes and debates in the history and sociology of science and technology during the 20th and 21st Centuries.
Books:
Charles Perrow, *Normal Accidents: Living with High Risk Technologies*

Films:
Errol Morris, *Leaving the Earth*

Module I: science, technology & ethics
Readings: (online) Film: Fire in the Blood
course intro, technology, modern warfare and ethics (readings online)
Unit 731, Nuremberg, Tuskegee, (readings online)
Pharma: pricing, direct to consumer marketing, generics (readings online)

***Quiz #1***

Module II: Normal Accidents
Reading: Charles Perrow, *Normal Accidents*  Film: *Leaving the Earth*
Three Mile Island and Chernobyl (read Perrow p. 3-61)
Risk societies, the Challenger & Airline accidents (read Perrow, ch. 5 & 8 )
Whistleblowing in Tobacco and at NASA (read: the Man who Knew too Much and Representation and Misrepresentation)

Module Three: Groupthink
Readings: Online, Film: *A State of Mind*
Ron Jones & the Third Wave

***Midterm***
Psychology and Group Behavior
Media Censorship and Dissidents

Module Four: GMOs
Late Short Summer Session 2016
HTS 2100: Science, Technology & the Modern World

Readings: online, Film: Our Daily Bread
The history of GMOs, risks and activism
GMOs in agriculture
GMOs in the future (group/individual project presentations this week)

Module Five: Unintended Consequences in Science & Engineering
Reading: Edward Tenner: Why Things Bite Back

Final Review

Final Exam