Description: This course provides an introduction to the vibrant interdisciplinary field of science, technology, and society (STS). From iPhones to intelligence tests to immunizations, technology, science, and medicine permeate modern life. In this course, students will learn to think critically about technology, science, and medicine and analyze how they have transformed the world in spectacular and mundane ways.

We explore questions such as: How have debates between doctors and activists shaped policy over vaccination mandates and the AIDS epidemic? How has the internet changed how we think and influenced grassroots political movements? How do standardized tests reproduce social hierarchies and personal identities? How have culture and politics affected the goals and designs of such technologies as guns, washing machines, and electrical systems? How have science, technology, and politics interacted in debates over climate change? And, ultimately, how should we manage the tension between popular democracy and technical expertise?