STS 5106: Contemporary Issues in Science and Technology

(core course)

Instructor: Professor Barbara Allen

Mondays 7:00–9:45 pm, NVC Falls Church

This course is the second of two core courses that introduce students to the social studies of science and technology. While the first course focuses on the emergence and development of the social studies of science as a field, this course examines more contemporary theories and approaches to science and technology. Over the last few decades, scholars in Science and Technology Studies (STS) have developed new theoretical and methodological approaches to analyzing not only the transformative impacts of technoscience on society, but also how social arrangements fundamentally influence their development in the first place. Readings will include foundational texts relevant to contemporary issues in STS as well as more recent scholarship and topics. Students will come to understand from a variety of viewpoints how societies and technosciences interact.

Instructor permission required. Prerequisites: STS 5105 or Intro to STS is strongly recommended.