

# TECHNOLOGY AND DISABILITY



## Dr. Ashley Shew

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Visit Dr. Shew's course webpage at [techanddisability.com](http://techanddisability.com).

News stories frequently report the development of “game-changing” and “life-altering” technologies for people with disabilities, from colorful 3D printable prosthetic hands to wheelchairs that climb stairs. But the reality is often far different from the claims of these feel-good stories. A device might not live up to the hype, may be functional only under certain environmental/architectural constraints, or may not be covered by insurance and therefore unattainable. This class equips students to enter a cultural conversation of growing importance at a level deeper than dominant media portrayals.

Students will play an active role in the development of classroom content, leading class in discussion, and presenting on individual technology projects of their choice. We will also learn how to measure to ADA specs and check out neat stuff in the assistive tech lab! Technologies we'll look at will include: cochlear implants and hearing aids, prosthetic arms and legs, exoskeletons, apps for a variety of disabilities, computer tech for blindness and learning disabilities, mobility tech (walkers, canes, etc.), and more!

## STS 3284 SPRING 2018

### CLE AREAS 2 and 7