

Class 15. Technology and Society: The Politics of Technological Change

Reading:

- Science, Government, and Politics of Knowledge.

Turn in:

- Pick a professor doing something interesting to you from this [list of Wisconsin professors supposedly doing nano](#). Search for their web page, find out what they do, write a 1-paragraph summary/list, be able to describe it generally. Is it nano?

1. Groups break up to define terms and answer questions on article.
2. Review as a class.
3. Students report on nanoprofessors.

Notes:

Old: Good science produced truth and that truth-producers deserve a special role in politics

New: Science knowledge is a negotiated product of human inquiry

Is research knowledge a product of politics?

Interest theory:

Social constructionism:

Best science elitism (competitive and peer review)

Political elitism (b/c of their knowledge, scientists have a special place)

Case: Oceanography vs. NIH

Big business?

Agriculture: once something becomes profitable, business doesn't want government to invest