HTS 6114: Topics in the History of Science
(Revolution or Innovation: Case Histories in the Science and Technology)

This seminar focuses on debates about the nature of scientific revolution and its relation to ideas of innovation in science and engineering. While seminar work begins with consideration of western theories of scientific change, it will ask how such theories have affected ideas of non-western science. Questions addressed include 1) legacy of academic views of science and their consequences for preparation of histories of science and technology, 2) scientific development and economic progress, and 3) the relation between contemporary stress on innovation and ideas of change in science. In addition to engaging major texts on that address scientific and technological change, the course carries the challenge to explore the ways that change in science and technology is hardly distant but surrounds us. Consequently, in addition to discussions of books and articles, the seminar will explore examples of ongoing research at Georgia Tech and the Georgia Tech Research Institute.

Schedule:


12. Seminar Presentations

13. Seminar Presentations

14. Seminar Presentations

Assignments:

In addition to the discussion of books, chapters, or articles associated with seminar, the objective of the seminar will be the preparation and staging of papers that may be submitted to conferences or appropriate journals. Whenever appropriate, students will be encouraged to situate and apply readings to evolving projects associated with the seminar or with research projects linked to their graduate work in HTS. To facilitate research and writing, I will anticipate meeting separately with each student on a regular basis. Every effort will be made to schedule an initial meeting before the beginning of the seminar or during the first week.

K. J. Knoespel  Office  OCE 116
kenneth.knoespel@iac.gatech.edu
telephone: 404-314-1492 (c)