Technology and Society
Issues for the 21st Century and Beyond

Third Edition

Linda S. Hjorth
Barbara A. Eichler
Ahmed S. Khan
John A. Morello

DeVry University–DuPage Campus

PEARSON Prentice Hall
Upper Saddle River, New Jersey
Columbus, Ohio
The accomplishments of the 20th century are revolutionizing science and technology in the 21st century. In the last decade alone the global society has experienced an explosion of knowledge in science, engineering, medicine, and technology. As a result, the world seems to be reinventing itself faster than ever. It took the Industrial Revolution two hundred years to make the world, but it took the Electronic Revolution only seventy years to remake it. With the speed of technological change seen so far in the 21st century, from biotechnology to nanotechnology, the reinvention process may even be faster still.

The changes brought about by technology will lead to a significant impact on society. The stakeholders, policy shapers, and decision makers of the future need to be educated about the social implications of technology so that they can guide society to the appropriate uses of technology, alert society to technological failures, and provide a vision to society in helping to solve societal problems in a wise and humane manner.

The third edition of Technology and Society: Issues for the 21st Century and Beyond presents an array of readings that provide historical perspective, introduces readers to new and emerging technologies, and discusses technology’s social implications. The text offers perspectives and viewpoints designed to promote inquiry. The scope of the text includes such topics as the history of technology, ethics and technology, war and technology, population, energy, health, technology and the third world, and technology of the future. The text also promotes active learning by using innovative learning tools and strategies, such as flowcharts, web-based exercises, case studies, and scenarios.