This 1 credit seminar is designed to familiarize students with the influential work and writing of Dr. Sherry Turkle—Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Professor of the Social Studies of Science and Technology at MIT and Founder and Director of the MIT Initiative on Technology and Self—in anticipation of her public lecture as the Koehn speaker in October 2007. With expert credentials in science, technology, and psychology, Prof. Turkle is perhaps uniquely positioned to assess the implications of the ever-increasing interdependence between human beings and technology. The first part of the seminar will involve reading excerpts from her recent writing and lectures, as well as selections from her most prominent books. The second part of the seminar will be led by Prof. Turkle and thus constitutes a rare opportunity for students to work closely with this world-class scholar and public figure (among her many accomplishments, Turkle has been voted one of the “Top 50 Cyber Elite” by Time, was selected to be Ms. Magazine’s woman of the year, and has served as a World Economic Forum Fellow).

Graduate students from all A&AA disciplines are encouraged to participate. This seminar should be of special interest to students interested in new media, technology, philosophy, and psychology.

Check out <http://web.mit.edu/sturkle/www/> and (add Koehn site too)

Course Requirements:

- Reading for October 5 seminar (available on blackboard)
Students are required to read these documents prior to the October 5 seminar meeting.

- Be sure to print the pdfs and bring them to the seminar.

- Typed list of questions for Prof. Turkle as they pertain to each student’s interests/research.

- Attendance and participation in 3 events:
  - October 5 seminar 11-1 pm (Mondloch), LAWRENCE 141
  - October 12 seminar 11-2 pm (Turkle/Mondloch), LIB
  - October 12 public lecture 6-7 pm (Turkle)

- Short “response” paper (< 1/2 page typed) at the conclusion of the three events describing the student’s impressions of Turkle’s lecture and how the various seminar events informed his/her research and practice. Due October 19.

The seminar is limited to 20 graduate students. Admission to the seminar requires instructor approval. Grading will be pass/no pass.

Required Reading List:


Recommended Reading (on reserve at AAA library and/or available for purchase at UO bookstore):

  - The Inner History of Devices: Technology and Self Cambridge,
