

# RESC 098 TECHNOLOGY EQUALS PROGRESS?

## Week 8 assignments

Read the following articles:

“The Social Construction of Facts and Artifacts” by Trevor J. Pinch and Wiebe Bijker, and the introduction, chapters 1, 2, and 3 of our textbook “They Say, I Say,” by G. Graff and C. Birkenstein.

### Writing Assignment 8A:

Heilbroner’s “Technological Determinism” and Pinch and Bijker’s “Social Constructivism” represent two differing interpretations of the nature of technological development. Using up to 500 words, describe an essential point made by Heilbroner in which Pinch and Bijker would agree. Also, examine whether there are any aspects of social constructivism in which Heilbroner would agree. Use quotations from both papers to support your responses.

Use the template containing the rubric and limit each response to 500 words or fewer. Print each assignment on a separate page and bring a hard copy to Thursday’s class after Fall Break.

### Writing Assignment 8B:

After reading the introduction, chapters 1, 2, and 3 of “They Say, I Say,” complete Exercise 1 at the end of each section. You will complete a total of four exercises in this writing assignment.

### Journal Entry 8:

Before Wednesday midnight, examine the ideas about social constructivism made in Pinch and Bijker’s paper. Relate these ideas to the development of some technology (other than the bicycle). In your specific case, identify possible ‘social groups’ and explore what ‘problems’ were addressed during the period of ‘interpretative flexibility.’

Finally, include a question that can be the basis for our class discussion.

### Symposium/Final Papers Project Proposal:

By Friday, October 10, submit your craft group’s proposal for your craft project. See our craft project hand-out for details. ([http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/~koutslts/RESC098/Writing/craft\\_project\\_2014.pdf](http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/~koutslts/RESC098/Writing/craft_project_2014.pdf)) Please convert your document to a PDF file and send it to me in an appropriately titled email.