

## Assistive Technologies: Cognitively Disabled

Class 6

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## Agenda

- 3:00-3:25 Presentation by Aaron
- 3:25-3:30 Announcements
- 3:30-3:50 Assistive technologies for the cognitively disabled

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## Announcements

- Thanks to Melissa Dawe for her help
- Quiz grading will be done by Friday
- Reading for Week 4 out by Friday

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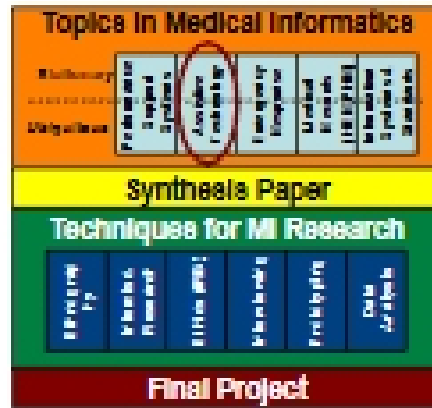
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## Where are we?



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## What is an assistive technology?

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## Assistive Technologies - Holes in Research

- The rate of abandonment of assistive technology is high (35%)

### Weaknesses of existing research

- Studies of AT abandonment usually group together all disabilities: physical, learning, cognitive, etc., and thus may give a misleading impression on abandonment of devices for cognitive disabilities
- Research generally takes a binary adoption vs. abandonment approach, ignoring usage contexts, perceptions of effectiveness
- Studies don't include "regular" technology re-purposed as AT

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**Methods used for evaluating ATs**

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**Methods used for evaluating ATs**

*Semi-structured interviews with teachers and parents of young people with cognitive disabilities (diverse network of caregivers)*

*Interviews conducted in the classroom or in the home*

*Interviews lasted 45 - 90 minutes*

*(family interviews were generally longer, more in-depth)*

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**What would you ask?**

**What questions would you ask elders with dementia about ATs?**

**What questions would you ask young people/caregivers with cognitive disabilities about ATs?**

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