

# Welcome to 6.811!





# Agenda

- Motivation
- Staff introduction
- Course overview, syllabus, and logistics
- Project example

The background image is a collage. On the left, a man in a dark shirt stands next to a blue sign that reads 'PRIORITY SEATING' and 'Please offer this seat to seniors or persons with disabilities'. In the center, a person is seated in a wheelchair. On the right, a person is using a laptop with a camera mounted on top.

# Pre-Class Survey: Themes

- Interest in technologies that help people with disabilities
- Challenging design and engineering constraints
- Personal experience with disability
- Get out of the MIT bubble

# Practical, Customized Assistive Technology

- Needs-driven, not technology-push
- Effective, usable, robust, affordable



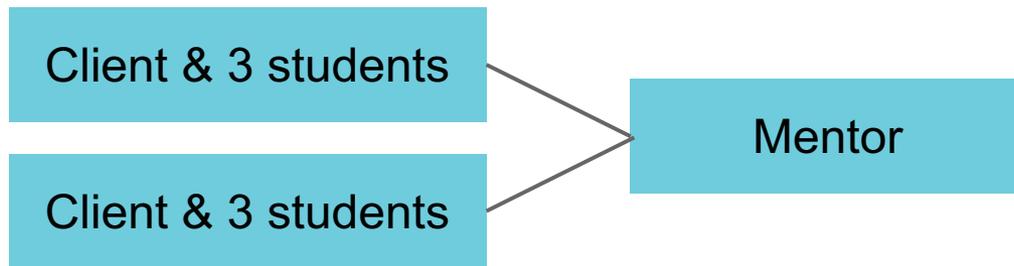


# PPAT Course Goals

1. Understand principles and complexities of assistive technology design and engineering.
2. Learn challenges and realities of people with disabilities and become equipped as an advocate.
3. Gain experience managing a team-based design/engineering project and working with a real client.

# How PPAT works

- Lectures: MW1-2
- Labs: MW3-5
- Client meetings: Weekly
- Mentoring during W3-5 lab





# How PPAT works your project

Check out “Project Progress” column in syllabus’ schedule

**Sept 15:** Client matching

**Sept 22:** Student-client matches announced

*Lab check-ins every Wed lab, lots of prototyping/iterations*

**Oct 20 & 22:** Mid-semester presentations

**Nov 17:** Deliver final prototype to client

**Dec 1 & 3:** Final presentations

A background image showing a person in a wheelchair on the right side, looking at a laptop. On the left, there is a sign that says "PRIORITY SEATING" and "Please offer this seat to seniors or persons with disabilities" with a 'T' symbol. The sign also has some smaller text and a logo.

# Who are our clients?

*Find out more!*

- Community members (<1h away by T)
- Adventurous
- Educators
- Physical & cognitive disabilities
- Welcome to lectures & labs

# Grading

<b>%</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
10	Four blog posts
10	2-3 min video
10	Mid-semester presentations
20	Online open-source documentation & press release
10	Final-semester presentations
20	Attendance, discussions, lab participation
20	Peer feedback



# PPAT Class Blog

- Goal: personalized reflection on disability and disability
- Four blog posts, from list of suggested topics
  - Attend a Boston-area event related to disability or AT
  - Write more about your client
  - Discuss a disability-related issue
- **Deadline: every two weeks**



# Lecture/Lab Expectations

- Presence and active participation
  - No screens when there are guest speakers
- Full attendance at labs and lectures

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6.811 Principles and Practice of Assistive Technology  
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