



Agenda

- Objectives
- Small Group Discussions
- Class Discussion



Objectives

- Survey the state of wheelchair accessibility on and around the MIT campus
- Understand the challenges and realities associated with using a wheeled mobility device



Discussion Topics

A. Discuss any accessibility challenges that you encountered. Can you think of ways that either the wheelchair or the environment itself could have been designed to ameliorate each challenge?

B. Discuss your experiences with other people – did you perceive yourself or others experiencing any discomfort when you were speaking with strangers or ordering food? If you were able to take the tech shuttle, describe your experience getting on and off.

C. Discuss what you learned about the realities and challenges of using a wheeled mobility device.



Final Thoughts

- Would it have been OK for us to go around MIT's campus while simulating other disabilities?
- Are there situations where it might be OK to “gawk at” or be impressed by someone's assistive technology?
- Pragmatically, without having the same abilities or disabilities, to what extent can any of us truly understand the realities of the people we work with in this course?

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6.811 Principles and Practice of Assistive Technology
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