

# Jameson M. Wetmore – Bio

Jameson “Jamey” Wetmore is an Associate Professor in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society at Arizona State University. His work brings together a variety of fields including history, anthropology, public policy, ethics, and sociology, but it focuses on two basic questions: How do technologies shape us? And, in turn, how do we shape technologies? He believes that technology impacts us in all phases of our lives and develops ways to help people navigate technological change to further their own values.

Jamey has explored a wide variety of technologies and social issues. For instance, he has studied how the Old Order Amish regulate the technologies they use in order to strengthen their communities. He has examined how people, technologies, and policies form complex systems to address pressing problems like flooding in New Orleans. And he has investigated how our understanding of responsibility changes with the development of new automotive technologies such as air bags and automated vehicles.

Much of his work over the past ten years has been focused on nanotechnology and he served as Associate Director for Engagement of Arizona State University’s Center for Nanotechnology in Society. He was co-editor of the first two Yearbooks of Nanotechnology in Society: *Presenting Futures* and *Nanotechnology and the Challenges of Equity, Equality, and Development*. He is currently coordinating the “Societal and Ethical Implications” efforts of the National Nanotechnology Coordinated Infrastructure (NNCI) in partnership with Georgia Tech.

While much of this research is initially directed to other academics, Jamey spends much of his time finding ways to help the public, policymakers, and even scientists and engineers better understand the role of technology in our world. To this end he co-edited *Technology and Society: Building our Sociotechnical Future* (MIT Press), an introductory textbook for the field. Last year he headed the development of four new undergraduate degree programs at ASU in “Innovation in Society” and now serves as the faculty chair of those programs. And he has done extensive work with science museums and centers across the country to develop ways for their guests to not simply learn about new scientific findings, but to also voice their own values and desires for the future of technology. He has led nationwide training programs for museum staff on the topic and currently serves on the leadership group of the National Informal STEM Education Network, a network of over 300 science museums that develops, evaluates, and distributes programming material.