Talent @ Work: Assistive Technology Can Help You Live Better

- Instructor bio (300 characters maximum)
  - **Karen Latimer**, ATP has been involved in the field of Assistive Technology and Disability Service for over 30 years. She has worked for the Technology Act Programs, non-profits, government agencies and had her own consulting business. Karen is a Certified Assistive Technology Practitioner (RESNA, 2003).

- Co-instructor(s) contact info & bio
  - **Gail Hamblin**, M.Ed is currently an assistive technology manager for the Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative (DATI) for the Center for Disabilities Studies at the University of Delaware. Gail holds a Master’s in Applied Educational Technology from Wilmington University and a Certificate in Assistive Technology Applications from California State University, Northridge.

- Course description (500 characters maximum)
  - Assistive technology is defined as a “is any item, device, or piece of equipment used to maintain or improve the independence and function of people with disabilities and seniors, in education, employment, recreation, and daily living activities.” (Assistive Technology Act of 2004) These devices can be low tech, like something that helps you to hold small items better. Or they can be more advanced like computers and smart home systems. Either way, they can help you to live more safely and independently with whatever conditions come with aging; hearing and vision loss, mobility or organization. Join the staff from the Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative to explore these types of devices and how they might help you or someone you love.

- Desired Session:
  - 1st Choice– First 5 weeks (February 22–March 26) @ 9-10:15 a.m.
  - 2nd Choice– Second 5 weeks (April 5–May 7) @ 9-10:15 a.m.
  - 3rd Choice– First 5 weeks (February 22–March 26) @ 10:30-11:45 a.m.
COURSE DESCRIPTION:

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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To explore the available Assistive Technology tools and how they might be used to increase safety and independence.
- Define assistive technology
- List at least 4 areas of assistive technology
- List 3 possible solutions for the use of assistive technology to support employment success
- Describe at least 1 assistive technology device or service to support vison loss, hearing loss, compromised fine motor function, or organizational/memory challenges

COURSE SCHEDULE:

- Week 1: What is AT and do I already have some?
- Week 2: Technology to assist people with visual impairments including age-related conditions and overall decrease in vision.
- Week 3: Technology to assist people with hearing including age-related conditions and overall decrease in hearing.
- Week 4: Technology to help with mobility and daily living tasks
- Week 5: Technology to help with memory and organization. Including technology to prevent wandering/escaping and assist those with early dementia and their caregivers.