

Science, Technology, and Society Minor

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The Program in Science, Technology, and Society (STS) integrates concepts and methods from the humanities and the social sciences in order to provide an interdisciplinary perspective on science and technology as human activities with cultural and political consequences. Topics of interest include the varied social and historical contexts that produce scientific knowledge, the ways in which political and cultural values affect scientific and technological research, the impact of technological innovation on different social classes, and the significance of scientific and technological progress for what it means to be human. The STS minor responds to a growing need for professionals who integrate perspectives from multiple academic disciplines to address the contemporary social significance and political impacts of science and technology. Even for those majoring in a discipline with a clear career track, STS courses teach skills that open options for pivoting into other careers.

General Requirements

The STS minor requires 21 credit hours. This involves three core courses (9 credit hours) and at least four electives. No more than two courses from the same discipline can count toward the 12 hours of electives. The minor program also must be approved by the STS Coordinator.

At least 12 of the 21 credit hours must be in courses numbered 300 or above, and at least 6 of these 12 hours must be taken at UAH. Of the 21 credits, up to 6 hours may count toward a students' major program and up to 6 hours may count toward GER credit, but no course may count toward all three areas (GER, Major, and the STS Minor).

Students can count up to 6 credits of mathematics, science, or engineering courses outside of their major toward the 12 elective credits; for majors in College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, these cannot include any courses applied toward GER Mathematics and Science requirements.

Core Courses

PHL 150	TECH, SCIENCE & HUMAN VALUES	3
SOC 150	SOCIOLOGICAL PERSP TECH & SCI	3
Select one of the following:		3
HY 393	HISTORY OF SCIENCE TO 1700	
HY 394	HISTORY OF MODERN SCIENCE	
HY 368	AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY	
HY 370	TECHNOLOGY IN AMERICAN HISTORY	

Elective Courses ¹

Select 12 semester hours from the following:		12
Any core HY course not taken to satisfy the History component of the Core Courses (HY 393, HY 394, HY 368, HY 370)		
EH 425	LITERATURE, SCIENCE & TECH	
HY 395	HY MED ANTIQTY ENLITNMENT	
HY 451	SCIENCE & RELIGION IN HISTORY	
SOC 369	ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY	
SOC 480	SOCIOLOGY SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	
PHL 311	PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE	
PY 403	HUMAN FACTORS PSYCHOLOGY	
With semester-specific approval from the STS Coordinator, electives also include:		
EH 415	ANGLOPHONE/POSTCOLONIAL LIT	
EH 418	REP TEXTS-WOMEN WRITERS	
PHL 301	ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY	

With approval from the STS Coordinator, further courses also may be included as electives

Total Semester Hours

21

¹ The elective courses further explore the impact and significance of science and technology on society and human experience. Students may apply no more than 6 semester hours from any one discipline to their electives.

New courses may be added to this list when approved for inclusion by the Program in Science, Technology, and Society Advisory Committee. For a current listing of approved courses and for additional information on the STS minor, please contact the STS Coordinator or see our website at <http://www.uah.edu/ahs/departments/sts>.