

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY

Science, Technology, and Society (STS) is a program of teaching and research devoted to the study of science and technology in society from both historical and contemporary perspectives. STS teaching and research are predicated on the belief that science and technology are two of the most potent forces for individual, social, and global change in the contemporary era. Understanding the natures, causes, and consequences of scientific and technological developments, how science and technology function in different societies, and how social forces attempt to shape these activities to serve diverse, often conflicting interests is socially important and intellectually challenging. Since adequately understanding this subject matter requires study beyond the confines of any single academic discipline, STS is constituted as a multi- and interdisciplinary program.

The Program offers two major curricula, leading to either a B.A. or a B.S. in STS. ALL majors take the STS Core. The 8 courses taken to fulfill Core requirements afford a basic, comprehensive understanding of phenomena of science and technology in society.

CORE REQUIREMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ONE FOUNDATIONAL COURSE:

STS 101/E 130: Science, Technology, and Contemporary Society

FIVE DISCIPLINARY ANALYSIS (LEVEL I) COURSES IN THE FOLLOWING THREE AREAS DISTRIBUTED 2-2-1, 2-1-2, OR 1-2-2:

a. Philosophical perspectives

STS 110/PP 103B: Ethics and Public Policy

STS 118/ME 214: Quality and the Products of Technology

b. Historical perspectives

STS 121/History 115: Technology and Culture in 19th Century America

STS 122/History 234A: Technology and Culture in 20th Century America and Europe

STS 130/History 133: The Darwinian Revolution

STS 131/History 134A: The Industrial Revolution: Historical and Cultural Perspectives

c. Social Scientific perspectives

STS 107/Economics 113: Technology and Economic Change

STS 137/Communications 137: The National Information Infrastructure Policy Debate

STS 162/Communications 169: Communication, Technology, and Society

STS 172/EES 171: Role of Technology in Policy Decisions

TWO ADVANCED COURSES:

a. One Disciplinary Analysis (Level II) course from among:

STS 207/Econ 224: Science and Technology in Economic Growth

STS 215/CS 201: Computers, Ethics, and Social Responsibility

STS 219/IEEM 220: Management and Organization of Research and Development

STS 221/History 263A: Automobile Industry in 20th Century America

STS 222/HPSci 251: Science and High Technology in Silicon Valley, 1930-1980

STS 231/IEEM 221: Technology and Work

STS 232/Anthro 232: Science, Technology, and Society

STS 243/History 336A: Technology, Work, and Culture in Comparative Perspective

STS 253/HPS 253: Body Works: Medicine, Technology, and the Body in Late 20th
Century America

STS 255/Law 604: Biotechnology: Legal and Policy Issues

STS 266/Communication 266: Communication Policy in Comparative Perspective

b. Required Senior Seminar

STS 200: Senior Colloquium

BA MAJOR

The B.A. major curriculum has two additional components: Technical Literacy and a Thematic Concentration.

The Technical Literacy component requires completion of CS 106A or its equivalent and a sequence of four courses: either four courses amounting to at least 12 units in a field of science, engineering, or mathematics; or four "Engineering Fundamentals" courses. For details see the STS section of 1996-97 Stanford Bulletin or the BA Degree Major Requirements Form available in the STS Office (Bldg. 370, Rm. 109) (<http://www-leland.Stanford.edu/group/STS/>).

The Thematic Concentration component requires a structured package of at least five courses amounting to at least 20 units in a pre-certified or student-designed area approved by the Program. For details see Stanford Bulletin or the same B.A. Degree Major Requirements Form.

BS MAJOR

The B.S. major adds to the STS Core a Technical Depth component, comprised of a coherent package of at least 50 units of courses in science, engineering, and/or mathematics. The student may fulfill this requirement via either the Focused Depth or Clustered Depth option. For details, see Stanford Bulletin or the B.S. Degree Major Requirements Form, available in the STS Office or from the Program's WWW site.

Engineering students in all majors are encouraged to consider applying for admission to the STS Honors Program. Earning "Honors in Science, Technology, and Society" requires completion of four STS courses and an original senior honors thesis on a topic involving science or technology in society. For details see Stanford Bulletin or contact the STS Office.

THE TECHNOLOGY IN SOCIETY REQUIREMENT

All engineering majors are required to complete one course addressing Technology in Society. Individual courses approved for the Technology in Society requirement and offered in 1995-96 are listed below.

COURSE	TITLE	UNITS	QUARTER
101	Sci., Tech., & Contemporary Soc.	Aut	4, 5
107	Tech. and Economic Change	Spr	4, 5
110	Ethics and Public Policy	Win	5
117	The History and Philosophy of Design	Spr	3
117V	Industrial Rev/Impact on Art, Arch., & Theory	Spr	5
121	Tech. and Culture in 19th Century America	Win	4, 5
146	Modernization, Technology, and Culture in Germany, 1900-45	Spr	4
160	Technological Opportunities for Humanity	Win	3
161	History of Computers	Win	3, 4
170	Work, Technology & Society	Spr	4
171	The Role of Technology in Nat'l Security	Aut	3
172	The Role of Technology in Policy Decisions	Spr	3
174	Ethical Issues in Civil Engineering	Spr	3-4
180	Dispute Resolution for Engineers	Spr	3, 4
215	Computers, Ethics, & Social Responsibility	Spr	3, 4

In addition to these courses, participation in the SCTI program offered by Overseas Studies at the Kyoto campus satisfies the Technology in Society requirement.