Science and Technology Studies, Doctoral Minor

Science and technology studies integrates knowledge about science, technology, and medicine with society, culture, and the economy. This interdisciplinary field of study incorporates a broad base of scholarship to provide a nuanced picture of science and technology as human enterprises, situated in wider historical, social, and cultural contexts.

The science and technology studies (STS) program offers a doctoral minor.

The doctoral minor in STS is offered to graduate students who are candidates for a Ph.D. degree in another department or program. The STS doctoral minor provides graduate students with an integrated program of interdisciplinary training in science and technology studies. The minor is open to students in all campus departments, including the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering. The program is oriented toward helping students use insights from STS in their research and teaching.

Requirements

All graduate students who are interested in the doctoral minor in STS should consult as soon as possible with the director of the Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies. Graduate students will work with the director to choose an adviser from the center’s affiliated faculty members. The advisor will assist in planning the student’s program of education.

Completion of the course requirements must be arranged in close consultation with the student’s Holtz Center affiliated advisor and assistant director.

Students working on an STS minor are required to take one core graduate seminar, STS 901 Science, Technology and Medicine in Society, which introduces students to the perspectives on science, technology, and society that transcend any single discipline. In addition, students in the Ph.D. minor are required to complete a set of thematic courses (amounting to 6–9 credits) outside of the student’s major field of study. The course of study must consist of classes from at least two different departments. These courses will serve to promote each student’s interdisciplinary understanding of the relationship between science/technology and society/culture. Students are required to achieve a grade of B or better in each course. Students pursuing the minor are also expected to attend the biweekly STS brown bag seminar, as well as frequent the STS speaker series and other Holtz Center events.

Students may request the inclusion of courses not on the approved list. An example is a relevant topics course. The request must be in writing and must include a copy of the course syllabus. All requests should be sent to the center director.

People

Faculty: Please visit the program website (http://sts.wisc.edu/members/faculty-infobios) for a comprehensive list of participating faculty.