

Science, Technology, Ethics and Policy (STEP) Minor Electives (Fall 2021)

Below are the electives for the three concentration areas of the STEP minor. You will work with the STEP minor advisor to select your concentration and elective courses. While we have categorized courses under concentrations, it is possible they may also be suitable for a concentration it isn't listed under. You can work with the advisor and/or program director to make those determinations. You may also learn about a course that isn't on this list that is suitable as STEP minor elective. In this case, you may request the advisor and program director to review the appropriateness of the course for your STEP minor course plan. See the definition for a STEP elective below.

Definition of a STEP Elective: *A course that approaches science and technology issues from a humanities and/or social sciences perspective.*

Social, ethical and policy implications: This concentration explores the contemporary societal implications of science and technology. These courses ask students to think about the role science and technology has played in creating local and global social and environmental crises and what science and technology can do to help solve them. (Number of Courses = 30)

- AGNR301 Sustainability
- ANSC 227 Eating with Eyes Wide Open (NS, IS)
- ANSC437 Animal Biotechnology
- ANTH 210 Intro to Medical Anthropology and Global Health (HS, UP)
- ANTH 266 Changing Climate, Changing Cultures (HS, CC, IS)
- ANTH323 Plagues, Pathogens and Public Policy
- ANTH413 Health Disparities in the United States
- ANTH415 Advanced Studies in Global Health
- AOSC 123 Causes & Implications of Global Change (NS, IS)
- ARCH271 People, Planet, and Profit: Building Sustainable Places – SP
- ARCH289I Sustainability at College Park – NS or SP, IS
- AREC 200 The Chesapeake Bay Ecosystem: Intersection of Science, Economics, and Policy (NS, SP, IS)
- AREC 241 Environment, Economics, and Policy (HS, IS)
- ASTR 220 Collisions in Space: The Threat of Asteroid Impacts (NS, IS)
- BSCI 126 Pollinators in Crisis (NS, IS)
- ENEE200 Technology & Consequences: Engineering, Ethics, and Humanity (HU, IS)
- GVPT 273 Introduction to Environmental Politics (SP)
- HIST401 Science and Gender
- LARC452 Green Infrastructure and Community Greening
- PHIL 200A Bioethics: Regulating Right and Wrong

- PHIL 201 Spooky Action at a Distance: Where Physics Meet Metaphysics (HU, IS)
- PHIL 202 Know Thyself: Wisdom through Cognitive Sciences (HS or HU, IS)
- PHIL261 Philosophy of the Environment
- PHYS 105 Physics for Decision-Makers: Global Energy Crisis (NS, IS)
- PLCY 401 Contemporary Issues in Public Policy- Politics of Pandemic and Outbreak Response
- PLCY203 Liberty and Justice for All: Ethics and Moral Issues in Public Policy
- PLCY301 Sustainability
- PLCY388V Special Topics in Public Policy: From Artificial Intelligence to Genetic Engineering, Policy Implications of Emerging Technologies
- PLCY388W Special Topics in Public Policy; Global Action and Problem Solving
- PLSC 125 Feeding Nine Billion by 2050: Food Security and Crop Protection (NS, IS)

Science and technology development: This concentration focuses on cultural, legal, organizational, and institutional forces that have shaped science and technology. It asks students to think about what causes knowledge production and technical practices to change over time and how these changes can improve implementation going forward. (Number of Courses = 25)

- ANTH453 Archaeology of the Modern City
- ARCH 170 Design Thinking and Architecture (HU)
- BMGT 289A Social Enterprise: Changing the World through Innovation and Transformative Action (SP, IS)
- BMGT289B - How Do Innovators Think? – (SP, IS)
- BSCI 135 Amazing Green: Plants that Transformed the World (NL, IS)
- ENCE 215 Engineering for Sustainability
- ENMA 150 Materials of Civilization (NS, IS)
- ENMA 289A Bigger, Faster, Better: The Quest for Absolute Technology – NS, IS
- ENME467 (Perm Req) Engineering for Social Change
- HIST 204 History of Science (HS)
- HIST 205 Environmental History (HS or HU)
- HIST206 Introduction to the History of Technology
- HIST224 Modern Military History, 1494-1815 (HSs)
- HIST289Y Zombies, Fear, and Contagion: A Cultural History of Public Health, Medicine, and Technology (HS or HU, UP, IS)
- HIST329X Planes, Trains, and Automobiles: Mobility and Transportation in History
- HIST405 Environmental History
- HIST406 History of Technology
- HIST407 Technology and Social Change in History (3 Credits)
- KNES 289W The Cybernetic Human – NS, IS
- LARC263 History of Landscape Architecture – HU
- PHYS 199M The Manhattan Project (HS or NS, IS)
- URSP 250 The Sustainable City (SP, IS)

Information economy: This concentration focuses on how the information economy has shaped scientific and technological practices. Students are asked to think about society's evolving relationships with information as a driving force in the private and public sector. (Number of Courses = 26)

- AMST260 American Culture in the Information Age (HS, IS)
- ASTR 230 Science and Fiction of Planetary Systems (NS, IS)
- CPSP349T Infrastructure and Society
- ENGL 255 Literature of Science and Technology (HU)
- ENGL 293 Writing in a Wireless World (HU or SP)
- ENGL376 The Speculative Imagination: Science Fiction on Page and Screen
- ENGL378F Special Topics in English; Paranoia, Conspiracies, and Fake News
- GEOG 170 Mapping our Digital World (NS)
- HLTH364 Social Media & Digital Tools for Community & Public Health
- INST 152 "Fake-Checking": Battling Misinformation and Disinformation in the Real World (SP)
- INST 154 Apollo at 50 (IS)
- INST 155 Social Networking: Technology and Society (IS)
- INST 201 Introduction to Information Science (HS)
- INST466 Technology, Culture, and Society
- JOUR 175 Media Literacy (SP, UP)
- JOUR 289F Beyond Facebook: How Social Media are Transforming Society (HU, IS)
- JOUR289E Media Law and Ethics in the Digital Age – (HS, IS)
- KNES222 Gambling in the New Millennium – HS, IS
- PLCY304 Evaluating Evidence: Finding Truth in Numbers
- PLCY388C Special Topics in Public Policy; Cybersecurity Policy: Practical Hacking for Policy Makers
- SOCY 225 Women's Jobs, Men's Jobs: Difference? (HS, IS)