

Charters for STS Major and Minor

1. Program Identification

- a. **Name of Program** – Science, Technology, and Society (BA and minor)
- b. **Term of Implementation** – Fall 2009, [Charter revised 202x](#)

2. Program Administration

- a. **Unit Sponsoring Program** – College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences
- b. **Unit with Primary Responsibility for Program** – Philosophy
- c. **Program Coordinator** – [A faculty member hired or appointed by the Philosophy Department, with teaching competence in Philosophy of Science and issues at the intersection of science and values. In the process of hiring or appointing the coordinator, the Philosophy Department will receive with advisory \(as opposed to decision making\) input from the STS Board \(see 2.d\), and with teaching competence in Philosophy of Science and issues at the intersection of science and values.](#) [Peter Ress](#)
- d. **Role and duties of Advisory Board and Affiliated Faculty** – The role of the Advisory Board is to provide advice and support for the STS programs, and to approve changes in the STS programs; this advice, support, and approval of changes is with respect to (but not necessarily limited to) curriculum, senior project advising, and public programs. [Along with the Advisory Board, a group of Affiliated Faculty will be established primarily to provide advice and support for student research.](#)
- e. **Composition of Advisory Board and Affiliated Faculty (including process to expand Board and Affiliated Faculty)** – Best efforts will be made to include at least one member from each degree program offering a course as part of the STS Major or Minor in the Advisory Board or Affiliated Faculty. When a course from a degree program new to the STS programs is introduced, the STS Director will make best efforts to have faculty from the program represented on the STS Advisory Board or among the Affiliated Faculty. Membership on the STS Advisory Board is for a term of three years, renewable; membership among the Affiliate Faculty has no term specification.
- f. **STS Advisory Board responsibilities** – The STS Advisory Board will manage the work of guidance and oversight of the STS Major and Minor programs by establishing several committees. These committees include Curriculum, Senior Project Advising, and Public Programs.

Curriculum. Best efforts will be made to have the Curriculum Committee include one member from each of the Colleges with courses in the STS programs (as of October 2021, these are Agriculture, Business, Education and Integrative Studies, Engineering, Environmental Design, Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences, and Science). This committee shall consider additions to, modifications of, and deletions from the STS program curricula on behalf of the STS Advisory Board; for example, this committee determines whether a course proposed for addition to the STS programs satisfies conditions for inclusion as described in Attachment B. Members of this committee have the responsibility to consult with faculty in their colleges who would be affected by STS curricular changes.

Senior Project Advising. The Senior Project Advising Committee shall at least four members, with representation from at least four colleges with courses in the STS programs. STS Majors are required to complete a senior project, which is an individual or group project primarily involving the writing of a senior

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thesis, undertaken with the guidance of faculty with relevant expertise as either first or second readers. The members of the Senior Project Advising Committee will advise the STS Director on possible first readers for senior projects.

Public Programs. The Public Programs Committee has the charge of inviting STS-related speakers to campus for events (such as talk series or conferences) and identifying and applying for funding to support such events. The membership of this committee is drawn from the Advisory Board, but is determined on the basis of interest and expertise (for example with grant funding), and is otherwise unspecified.

Each of these committees should appoint a chair; the chairs will be in frequent communication with the STS Director.

Policy changes affecting committees or curriculum must be approved by the STS Advisory Board as a whole. The STS Director shall advise, and obtain approval from, the STS Advisory Board with regard to modifications of the policies, stated above, pertaining to committees. Approval of policy changes is provided by ballot (where the majority of those voting decides, given at least a majority of the Board is voting). Approval of creation or deletion of committees is provided by ballot (where the majority of those voting decides, given at least a majority of the Board is voting).

In addition, the STS Director must advise, and obtain approval from, the whole STS Advisory Board regarding policy changes pertaining to the curriculum of the STS programs, as rendered by changes to Section 4.b. below ("Process for Development and Review"). Approval of such policy changes is provided by ballot (where the majority of those voting decides, given at least a majority of the Board is voting).

g. Meetings of the Advisory Board – There will be one annual meeting of the whole Advisory Board during ~~Fall Conference or during the first or second (full) week of the Fall Quarter Semester~~; at this meeting, the Advisory Board will address issues facing the STS Programs, including (but not limited to) recruitment for the programs, course offerings, advising, and learning outcomes assessment. The Curriculum, ~~Senior Project Advising, and Public Programs~~ Committees will meet at least annually, as determined by the chairs of ~~such this~~ committees.

e-h. Role of Affiliated Faculty – The role of Affiliated Faculty is to give support to the STS programs by means such as (a) being second readers for students' senior theses (where they would support student research by way of offering science and technology content knowledge or historical, social, ethics, or policy context for developments in science and technology), and (b) being informal resources for ideas about courses to add to the STS curriculum and STS speakers to invite to campus.

f.i. Responsibility for Student Advising – Program coordinator or their designee, Peter Ress

3. Program Resources

- a. **Faculty** – Existing faculty in University.
- b. **Office Space and Clerical Support** – Responsibility of college with primary responsibility for program
- c. **Classroom Space** – Classrooms allocated to department of instructor teaching a course
- d. **Budget (including use of external funding)**
 - O/E – Responsibility of unit with primary responsibility for Program
 - Faculty – Will be paid by their respective college

- External Funding – ICR funds shall be allocated to the PI, department, unit with primary responsibility, and central Academic Affairs.

e. Allocation of FTE Taken and FTE Taught

- FTE taught will be allocated to department of instructor teaching course
- FTE taken will be allocated to department of instructor teaching course

4. Curriculum

- List of courses in program** – Attachment A
- Process for Development and Review** – Attachment B
- Roadmap** – Attachment C
- Two-year schedule** – Attachment D

5. Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan – Attachment E

Including:

- Outcomes**
- Matrix to relate courses to outcomes**
- Methods for assessment**
- Multi-year timeline**

6. Program Review Timeline

~~Program review schedule will follow in-place University protocols. The first program review will be in fall 2011 and every five years thereafter. The review for the minor will be completed in conjunction with the review of the major.~~

7. Process for Faculty Evaluation

Faculty will be evaluated according to the RTP in their department.

8. Administration of Co-Curricular Activities

Activities will be coordinated with the Advisory Council and administered by the Program Coordinator.

9. Process for Dissolution of Program

~~Per e~~Existing procedure as approved by the Senate.

This document must be approved by the curriculum committees and deans of all colleges offering courses in the programs, the Academic Programs Committee of the Academic Senate, the Academic Senate, and the President.