Science, the Environment, Technology, and Society (SETS)

The SETS major offers students a multi-disciplinary course of study that analyzes science, technology, and the environment within their broader cultural contexts, including intellectual and social history, environmental history, religious studies, and philosophy.

Students will choose one of several specialties as a focus for their coursework, such as Philosophy of Science, History of Science and Technology, Science and Technology Policy, or Environmental History. Moreover, students are required to become knowledgeable about one or more areas of science, technology, environmental studies, or public policy, as the department believes such literacy is an important part of a land-grant institution liberal arts education. Students will therefore be required to take at least 12 credits in an appropriate science, social science or engineering discipline. Finally, a capstone is required for all students; each will complete an original research paper synthesizing their scientific, technological, and humanistic knowledge.

SETS Option

Freshman Year

Choose two of the following: 6-8
- HSTA 101IH - American History I
- HSTA 102IH - American History II
- HSTA 160D - Introduction to the Am West
- AMST 101D - Introduction to American Studies
- HSTR 101IH - Western Civilization I
- HSTR 102IH - Western Civilization II
- HSTR 130D - Latin American History
- HSTR 135D - The Modern Middle East
- HSTR 140D - Modern Asia
- HSTR 145D - Reinventing Japan
- HSTR 160D - Modern World History
- PHL 101IH - Intro Phil: Reason and Reality
  or PHL 110IH - Intro Ethics: Good and Evil

University Core and Electives 19

Year Total: 28-30

Sophomore Year

Choose one of the following: 3
- RLST 100D - Intro to the Study of Religion
  or RLST 110D - Religion, Conflict & Politics

RLST 207CS - Sci and Tech in World History
- HSTR 208RH - Sci,Envir, Tech, Soc: Common Exp
- HSTR 282CS - Darwinian Revolution
- PHL 205CS - Other Animals
- PHL 242CS - Sci/Pseudo Sci & Subjectivity

Choose an approved Science/Technology/Social Science course, consult with a SETS advisor 3-4

One Year Modern Language. The student may elect to take an additional nine credits of upper-division history courses instead of one-year modern language requirement.

University Core and Electives 11

Year Total: 32-34

Junior Year

Choose one of the following: 3
- PHL 303 - Approaches to Epistemology
- PHL 321 - Philosophy & Biomedical Ethics
- PHL 322 - Philosophy & Environmental Ethics
- PHL 353 - Philosophy and Technology
- PHL 354 - Philosophy of Race
- RLST 402 - Natural/Unnatural/Supernatural
- RLST 326 - Topics in Religion

Choose an approved Science/Technology/Social Science course—consult with a SETS advisor 6

University Core and Electives 21

Year Total: 30

Senior Year

Choose six of the following: 18
- HSTA 412IH - American Thought and Culture
- HSTR 417 - Early Modern Science
- HSTR 419 - Modern Science
- HSTR 445 - Environ, Health & Sci in Japan
- HSTR 446 - Science and Medicine in China
- HSTA 468 - History of Yellowstone
- HSTA 470 - American Environmental History
- HSTA 482 - History of American Technology
- HSTR 482 - Animal Histories
- HSTR 484 - World Environmental History
- HSTR 486 - Museum History

Choose an approved Science/Technology/Social Science course—consult with a SETS advisor 3-4

Choose one of the following: 3
- HSTA 490R - Undergraduate Research
- HSTR 499R - Sen Capstone: Hist Methodology
- PHL 490R - Undergraduate Research
- RLST 490R - Undergraduate Research

University Core and Electives 9

Year Total: 30-31

Total Program Credits: 120

Approved Science/Technology/Social Sciences Courses for SETS Option

In addition to satisfying the university core science requirements, students, only after consultation with their academic advisor, are required to take 12 credits of science in one science or engineering or social science or public policy discipline. One of these courses must be at the 300 or 400 level.

A minimum of 120 credits is required for graduation; 42 of these credits must be in courses numbered 300 and above. Students must receive a grade of C- or better in all required courses.