Freshman Level Courses

Section 001 Ms. Blair Stein  TR 10:30-11:45  PhSc 402
Section 995 Associate Professor Piers Hale  Online
An introduction to the study of science, technology, and medicine in light of historical, philosophical, and cultural analysis. Focusing on the relationships between science, nature, and society, this class introduces some of the big questions about who we are, who we have been, and who we might become.

Sophomore Level Courses

2423 – Social, Ethical Issues in Science, Technology and Medicine
Section 900 Mr. Nathan Kapoor  MW 4:30-5:45  PhSc 402
An introduction to a range of social and ethical issues in the history of science, technology, environment, and medicine. Including the social, political and ethical implications of technology and scientific knowledge, and the role they play in shaping our environment and our selves.

Junior/Senior-Level Courses: Basic Survey Courses

3013 – History of Science to the Age of Newton: The Origins and Early Development of Science
(2 independently run sections)
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Professor Rienk Vermij  TR 9:00-10:15  PhSc 100
Section 002 Associate Professor Kathleen Crowther  MWF 10:30-11:20  MF Price Hall 2010 Honors Section
A survey of understandings of the natural world from Antiquity to the Seventeenth century. This course explores how people in different times and places have explained such phenomena as the motions of the planets and the workings of the human body. Throughout we will pay particular attention to the cultural settings in which theories about the natural world were produced. We will also examine the impact of scientific ideas and discoveries upon human societies and cultures.

3023 – History of Science since the 17th Century: Foundation and Growth of Modern Science
(2 independently run sections)
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Associate Professor Stephen Weldon  MWF 9:30-10:20  PhSc 359
Section 002 Assistant Professor Aparna Nair  MW 3:00-4:15  PhSc 402
A survey tracing the development of major concepts, discoveries, and methods in physical, biological, and earth sciences, as well as the interaction between science and other institutions, in the early modern and modern periods. Emphasis is given to the growth of scientific thought in modern times, to the effects of increasing respect for science among eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Europeans and Americans, and to the emergence of pure and applied science as major forces in modern civilization.
Junior/Senior-Level Courses: Intermediate Topics Courses

3223 – Gender Issues in Science, Technology and Medicine
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Associate Professor Katherine Pandora  MW 1:30-2:45  Gould Hall 155
Historical analysis of gender issues in science, technology and medicine, and in comparison with current practices. Topics will include questions in scientific method, particularly the concept of “objectivity,” biocultural theories of gender; gender issues in scientific inquiry, in the development of and engagement with technologies, and in medical thought and practice; media images; and feminist science fiction.

3333 – Technology and Society in World History
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Professor Hunter Heyck  MWF 11:30-12:20  PhSc 402
A survey of the history of technology since 1500. The course emphasizes historical contexts and cultural meanings, not technical details, as it explores the key steps in the construction of our modern technological world. Materials include literature and film as well as non-fiction.

3353 – Science, Exploration, and Empire
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one previous course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Assistant Professor Aparna Nair  TR 10:30-11:45  PhSc 321
Examines the contested history of exploration and empire from both western and non-western perspectives and explores colonial and post-colonial encounters in science, both imagined and lived. Focuses on exploration and empire as inextricably linked in the history of modern science, a link that exists on multiple levels, including material, intellectual, moral, and social. Surveys people, things, ideas, and values across cultural and political borders. Materials include travelers' tales, explorers' accounts, fiction, and films as well as nonfiction.

3423 – Modern Medicine – A Historical Introduction
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Associate Professor Kathleen Crowther  TR 8:30-9:45  SRTC CORE 1030
This course explores contemporary issues in medical science, policy and practice through examination of their historical roots. Topics to be discussed include racial and economic disparities in health care, the recent rise in interest in alternative medicine, the epidemics of AIDS and obesity, regulation of the pharmaceutical industry, organ transplantation, genetics, stem-cell research and reproductive technologies.

3443 – Science in a Religious World
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Professor Rienk Vermij  TR 4:30-5:45  PhSc 402
The course explores how ideas about the natural world intersect with beliefs about ethical and spiritual matters. It looks at Christian and non-Christian responses to modern science, with an eye to the intellectual and social elements of both science and religion. Beyond that, it takes a global view on the topic and grapples with the very terms that we use to talk about the world of knowledge and the world of faith or belief.

3453 – Science and Civilization in Islam
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Team-Taught Course
Section 001 Associate Professor Suzanne Moon  TR 1:30-2:45  PhSc 402
Assistant Professor Aparna Nair
History of scientific traditions and ideas in Islamic civilization, from the origins of Islam to the early modern period. Emphasis is on the derivation, development and transmission of Islamic science, as well as on the assimilation and influence of science within Islamic culture.
3463 – Cold War Science
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Professor Peter Barker TR 3:00-4:15 Dale Hall 122
Science and technology during the Cold War, including strategic weapons and SDI, medical experiments, the space race, science in popular culture, and science and foreign policy.

3473 – History of Ecology and Environmentalism
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Assistant Professor Pete Soppelsa MWF 12:30-1:20 PhSc 402
Explores the historical development of ecology as a science and as a political stance, from the eighteenth through the twentieth century. Topics may include: climate change, population control, deforestation, globalization, resource management, and environmental ethics.

3833– Scientific Revolution
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor
Section 001 Professor Steven J. Livesey TR 3:00-4:15 PhSc 402
Explores the history of the "scientific revolution" of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Study includes understanding debates not just about what happened in the past but about how we today define science and how we understand the place of science in the modern world.

4613 – Issues and Methods in the Digital Humanities
Prerequisite: Junior standing, or completion of one lower-division course in HSCI, or permission of instructor (Slashlisted with 5613; no student may earn credit for both 4613 and 5613.)
Section 001 Associate Professor Katherine Pandora T 1:30-4:20 Burton 208
Through interdisciplinary exploration students read, discuss, hack, and reflect with experts in the areas of history and history of science, information studies, geography, literature, classics, computer science, media studies, anthropology, political science, communication, and more. Students will not only become more literate in interpreting digital culture but in applying the technologies of the digital world, acquiring new competencies and insights in the process.

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