

# Science and Technology Studies (STS)

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## Courses

### STS C4AC Data and Justice 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025

This course engages students with fundamental questions of justice in relation to data and computing in American society. Data collection, visualization, and analysis have been entangled in the struggle for racial and social justice because they can make injustice visible, imaginable, and thus actionable. Data has also been used to oppress minoritized communities and institutionalize, rationalize, and naturalize systems of racial violence. The course examines key sites of justice involving data (such as citizenship, policing, prisons, environment, and health). Along with critical social science tools, students gain introductory experience and do collaborative and creative projects with data science using real-world data.

#### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

#### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Science and Technology Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

**Formerly known as:** Data Science, Undergraduate 4AC

**Also listed as:** DATA C4AC

### STS C100 Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2016, Spring 2015

This course provides an overview of the field of Science and Technology Studies (STS) as a way to study how our knowledge and technology shape and are shaped by social, political, historical, economic, and other factors. We will learn key concepts of the field (e.g., how technologies are understood and used differently in different communities) and apply them to a wide range of topics, including geography, history, environmental and information science, and others. Questions this course will address include: how are scientific facts constructed? How are values embedded in technical systems?

#### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

#### Summer:

6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture and 3.5 hours of discussion per week

8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 3 hours of discussion per week

#### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Science and Technology Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Instructors:** Mazzotti, Winickoff

**Also listed as:** HISTORY C182C/ISF C100G

## STS C104D Human Contexts and Ethics of Data - DATA/History/STS 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2025 8 Week Session, Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2022, Fall 2020, Spring 2020

This course teaches you to use the tools of applied historical thinking and Science, Technology, and Society (STS) to recognize, analyze, and shape the human contexts and ethics of data. It addresses key topics such as doing ethical data science amid shifting definitions of human subjects, consent, and privacy; the changing relationship between data, democracy, and law; the role of data analytics in how corporations and governments provide public goods such as health and security to citizens; sensors, machine learning and artificial intelligence and changing landscapes of labor, industry, and city life. It prepares you to engage as a knowledgeable and responsible citizen and professional in the varied arenas of our datafied world.

### Rules & Requirements

**Credit Restrictions:** Students will receive no credit for DATA C104\HISTORY C184D\STS C104D after completing DATA 104. A deficient grade in DATA C104\HISTORY C184D\STS C104D may be removed by taking DATA 104.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 0-1.5 hours of discussion per week

### Summer:

6 weeks - 7.5-7.5 hours of lecture and 0-3.5 hours of discussion per week

8 weeks - 6-6 hours of lecture and 0-3 hours of discussion per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Science and Technology Studies/Undergraduate

**Grading/Final exam status:** Letter grade. Final exam required.

**Formerly known as:** History C184D/Science and Technology Studies C104D

**Also listed as:** DATA C104/HISTORY C184D

## STS C200 Topics in Science and Technology Studies 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2014, Fall 2013  
This course provides a strong foundation for graduate work in STS, a multidisciplinary field with a signature capacity to rethink the relationship among science, technology, and political and social life. From climate change to population genomics, access to medicines and the impact of new media, the problems of our time are simultaneously scientific and social, technological and political, ethical and economic.

### Rules & Requirements

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Science and Technology Studies/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Also listed as:** ANTHRO C254/ESPM C252/HISTORY C250

## STS C204 Human Contexts and Ethics of Data 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024

This course teaches you to use approaches from the across the humanities and interpretive social sciences and tools of Science, Technology, and Society (STS) to recognize, analyze, and shape the human contexts, social implications, and ethics of data and data technologies, including data analytics, algorithmic decision systems, machine learning (ML), and artificial intelligence (AI).

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** Graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Graduate students without previous (undergraduate or graduate-level) preparation in the interpretive social sciences or humanities are encouraged to confer with the instructor before enrolling

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** Science and Technology Studies/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Instructor:** Carson

**Also listed as:** DATA C204/HISTORY C254

## **STS C250 Science and Technology Studies Research Seminar 3 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022,  
Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Spring 2015

This course will cover methods and approaches for students considering professionalizing in the field of STS, including a chance for students to workshop written work.

### **Rules & Requirements**

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

### **Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

### **Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** Science and Technology Studies/Graduate

**Grading:** Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

**Also listed as:** ANTHRO C273/ESPM C273/HISTORY C251