Overview

This catalogue describes HPSC modules offered by UCL Department of Science and Technology Studies (STS) for the 2018-19 session. Detailed information, including sample syllabi, can be found on the department website: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information.

The information in this catalogue is correct at the date of publication (see headers) but may alter. Please check the latest edition of the module catalogue and the on-line timetable prior to formally registering on modules.

Timetable information

We use the UCL online timetable, www.ucl.ac.uk/timetable. The online timetable provides information about module times and locations. Students should continue to check class locations regularly using the online timetable as rooms are subject to change without prior notice.

Before formally registering please check for timetable clashes between modules. Clashes are not an acceptable excuse for missing classes. It is the student’s responsibility to check carefully that they can attend all compulsory sessions for their modules.

The online timetable for the 2018-19 academic year will be published in August 2018.

Information for STS students

You can find more detailed information about individual modules in the STS Syllabus library, which can be found on the department website: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information.

STS students must discuss their selections with their personal tutor. Module selections must be approved by personal tutors before they will be confirmed in Portico. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure they satisfy their degree requirements. These can be found on the Moodle parent page here: https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=28049

Module tutors may be contacted directly: see www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/directory.

You will not be able to change your Term 2 module selection after 5 December. It is therefore essential that you make sure you research your module choices thoroughly before selecting them. If you want to make a change after you have confirmed your module choice, please consult your tutor.
Changes can be made by your teaching administrator and you will need to request any changes to your Term 2 module registrations in good time before the deadline.

Students from other departments

Students outside STS are welcome to register on most HPSC modules. This catalogue indicates where modules are not open to all UCL students. In some cases, pre-requisites apply and queries regarding these should be directed to the module tutor. Otherwise, registration for students from other departments is on a first-come, first-served basis by date selected in Portico.

Our modules attract students from many different departments and backgrounds. These modules offer opportunities for students to meet new people, meet students from many different degree programmes, and develop transferrable skills they might not otherwise build. Challenge yourself to mix it up. Try STS. As always, discuss module selections with personal tutors.
## HPSC modules at-a-glance

Click on the course code to jump to course information. We're using the new UCL module codes.

### Level 1 modules (introductory)

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Module information and syllabi are available at: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information)
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Module information and syllabi are available at: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information)
Level 1 introductory modules

HPSC0003 History of Science: Antiquity to Enlightenment
Surveys the origins and development of science from the ancient Greeks to 1800 and around the globe. Main themes are the origins of science in the ancient world, the nature of the scientific revolution and the spread of science during the Enlightenment. Attend all lectures plus one tutorial per week.
Tutor: Dr Simon Werrett
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Students attend two one-hour lectures and one one-hour tutorial per week.
Assessment: 3 hour exam - 50% and essay (2500 words) - 50%
External Examiner: Dr Rebekah Higgitt - University of Kent

HPSC0007 Investigating Science and Society
Introduces research methods that underpin all elements of science and technology studies. Content includes basic research and scholarly writing techniques (including identifying appropriate sources, avoiding plagiarism, and writing a convincing argument), as well as qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques. In addition to becoming familiar with underpinning theory and research context, students will also have the opportunity to apply data collection methods practically, for example by designing questionnaires and conducting interviews in real-world settings.
Tutor: Dr Tiago Mata
Teaching sessions: Term 1. 1x 2-hour workshop session every week.
Assessment: 2 x 2500 word coursework - 50% each
External Examiner: TBC –

HPSC0008 Science Communication and Public Engagement
Introduces the public dimensions of science and technology. It explores the relationship between the professional world of science and the social, cultural and personal spaces in which science contributes to the shaping of society. It also develops students’ critical analysis skills with respect to the communication of science in different public contexts including the news media, museums, fiction and online.
Tutor: Dr Simon Lock
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Attend 2 x 1-hour lectures plus one tutorial per week
Assessment: 3 hour exam - 50% and essay (2500 words) - 50%
External Examiner: Dr Declan Fahy - Dublin City University

HPSC0009 Revealing Science
An engaging introduction to history, philosophy, and social studies of science, including key concepts in science and technology studies, public engagement with science, and science policy. Using

Module information and syllabi are available at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information
contemporary scientific issues as its canvas, the focus of this module is to encourage students to develop their skills as interdisciplinary and publicly engaged scholars, working both in groups and individually. This course is intended as a foundation and sampler for later courses in science and technology studies.

Tutor: Dr Carina Fearnley
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Students attend one lecture and one seminar per week.
Assessment: Individual annotated bibliography (500 words) - 30%, individual essay (2500 words) - 40%, group piece (1500 words) - 30%.
External Examiner: TBC –

## Level 2 intermediate modules

**HPSC0012 Policy Issues in the Life Sciences**

Provides a critical overview of policy issues arising from developments in the biological sciences. The module covers a variety of issues, including: medical research policy, biotechnology and public policy, debates about the social acceptability of recombinant DNA research, biology and its publics, controlling biological weapons research and animal experimentation. Attend all lectures and one seminar per week.

Tutor: Dr Erman Sozudogru
Teaching sessions: Term 1: Students attend 1 x 1-hour lecture and 1 x 1-hour seminar per week.
Assessment: Book review (1500 words) - 40%, essay (3000 words) - 60%
External Examiner: TBC –

**HPSC0013 Science in Popular Culture**

An introduction to media studies for those interested in relations between science and the media. What science gets covered in print, on TV and online? How and why is that material selected? How can we investigate the effects of media coverage on public knowledge of or attitudes towards science? The module gives a short survey of relevant empirical and theoretical work in media studies, and public engagement with science.

Tutor: Dr Emily Dawson
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Students attend 1 x 2-hour seminar per week
Assessment: 3-hour exam - 50% and Content/Media Analysis Project (2500 words) - 50%
External Examiner: Dr Declan Fahy - Dublin City University

**HPSC0014 Philosophy of Science 2**

Intensive exploration of some central, on-going debates in philosophy of science such as scientific realism and antirealism; the nature of scientific explanation; and the status of laws of nature. No pre-requisite philosophy of science knowledge required. However, if students have not completed HPSC0004 previously, they must secure the tutor’s permission.

Tutor: Dr Brendan Clarke
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Students attend 2 x 1-hour seminar per week.
Assessment: 5 minute video - 10%, Essay (2500 words) - 50%, 2-hour Exam - 40%
External Examiner: Dr Ian Kidd – University of Nottingham

*Module information and syllabi are available at: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information)*
HPSC0022 Science and Religion
Examines the relations between science, religion and progress. Topics will include the relation between science and religion in the ancient world, in Islam and in China, the role of Christianity in the scientific revolution of the seventeenth century and some issues in the relation of religion and science today.
Tutor: Dr William MacLehose
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Students attend 1 x 2-hour seminar per week.
Assessment: 3-hour exam - 50% and essay (2500 words) - 50%.
External Examiner: Dr Rebekah Higgitt - University of Kent

HPSC0035 Science and Empire
What has been the relationship between the sciences, exploration and empire in history? Is there a connection between the discovery of new territories and the discovery of new facts? This module explores the importance of imperialism for the growth of modern science in the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries and the ways science provided resources for imperial expansion in the same period. We consider the history of European empires and global exploration and commerce; the ways colonial knowledge challenged traditional pictures of the natural world in Europe; questions of cartography, navigation and the longitude problem; and the entanglement of science in questions of race and slavery.
Tutor: Dr Simon Werrett
Teaching sessions: Term 1. 1 x 2-hour session per week.
Assessment: 3-hour exam – 50%, essay (2500 words) – 50%
External Examiner: Dr Rebekah Higgitt - University of Kent

Level 3 advanced modules

HPSC0044 Science and the Publishing Industry
This module investigates the publishing industry with a focus on science publishing. It aims to cover peer-review journals, popular science publishing, book publishing, textbooks, and related consumer goods. Who are the major publishers in this sector? What are the historical and latest trends in the industry? How does it work, both from the perspective of scientist and publisher? What careers are available in science publishing? What are the economics? In recent years, major changes in the industry have been nothing short of revolutionary: open access, print-on-demand, automated translations, tablet reading, and more. The class will involve practical projects and opportunities to meet professionals in the industry. It also will integrate key STS themes to the subject.
Tutor: Prof Joe Cain
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Students attend 2x 1-hour lecture per week
Assessment: Essay (3000 words) – 60%, Essay (1500 words) – 20% and five-minute presentation – 20%.
External Examiner: Dr Declan Fahy – Dublin City University

HPSC0061 Governing Emerging Technologies
This course goes inside technology to discuss its political and ethical dimensions. Technologies shape our future in powerful and largely unaccountable ways. Are they inevitable, or can we control

Module information and syllabi are available at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information
the technologies that we get, anticipate their implications, prevent hazards and share their benefits? Why do we have iPads and space shuttles but we don’t all drive electric cars and have clean drinking water in the developing world? Were the Fukushima nuclear meltdown and the financial crisis just accidents? What could regulators have done to prevent them? As science introduces new risks and ethical dilemmas, what should governments do to control research, publication, patenting and innovation? The course will teach students to think and write clearly and critically about technology. It will be assessed through an essay and a series of short blog-posts.

Tutor: Dr Jack Stilgoe
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Students attend one 1-hour lecture and one 1-hour seminar per week.
Assessment: Coursework (2500 words) - 50%, Essay (3000 words) - 50%
External Examiner: TBC –

HPSC0066 Science and Film Production
Making films involves more than pointing a camera. In this module students gain skills across a wide range of activities related to film-making: scriptwriting, production (filming, lighting, sound recording, interview technique, presentation, narrative, documentary and docudrama genres) and post-production (paper, film and sound editing). The module is practical in design. It also has a theoretical dimension, establishing a social, cultural and intellectual context for production and offering a strong critical foundation for the effective realization of production work. Students will create film productions that will engage with real audiences on the web and other media platforms.

Tutor: Ms Bex Coates
Teaching sessions: Term 1, Students attend 1 x 2-hour seminar per week
Assessment: 5-minute Group Film - 50%, Essay (2000 words) - 50%
External Examiner: Dr Declan Fahy - Dublin City University

HPSC0071 Nature, Technology and the Environment
Explore the intersection of history of technology and environmental history. This is the history of the material world, both natural and artificial. It explores historiography – what are the methods for exploring and interpreting this intersection – and it examines and discusses case studies. Topics may include: large-scale technological systems and the environment; invasive species in history; commodity history with respect to nature and technology; pollution; hybridities; the anthropocene; artificial life; nature and bureaucracy; war and nature.

Tutor: Prof Jon Agar
Teaching sessions: Term 1, Students attend 1 x 2-hour seminar per week
Assessment: 2 x 2500 word essay - 50% each
External Examiner: TBC –

HPSC0109 Philosophy of Medicine
This module provides students with an overview of the field of philosophy of medicine. Based on case-studies drawn from contemporary medical practice, the module will engage with six conceptual issues of major importance to medicine. In brief, these are the question of discovery (of diseases and treatments), with causation, with modelling, with complexity, with classification, and with evidence-based medicine.

Tutor: Dr Brendan Clarke
Teaching sessions: Term 1. Students attend 2 x 1-hour sessions per week.

Module information and syllabi are available at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information
Assessment: Essay (4000 words) - 80%, Write up of Class Presentation (1000 words) - 20%
External Examiner: Dr Ian Kidd – University of Nottingham

**HPSC0110 History of Medicine**
This course addresses the changes and developments in Western medicine from the Ancient Greek world to 1700. The course will discuss the varieties of theory and practice of medicine, the understandings of the body and illness, and the historical contexts in which medicine can be understood in the pre-modern world, including classical Greek and Roman society, medieval Islamic and Western cultures, and Renaissance and early modern periods.
Tutor: Dr William MacLehose
Teaching sessions: Term 1. 1 x 2-hour lecture per week.
Assessment: Essay (3000 words) - 60%, 2-hour Exam - 40%
External Examiner: Dr Rebekah Higgitt – University of Kent
2018-19 Term 2

Level 1 introductory modules

**HPSC0004 Philosophy of Science 1**

This is an introductory module in the philosophy of science. The course is divided into two parts: (1) the epistemology of science and (2) the metaphysics of science. The first part of the course will focus on several central problems regarding the nature of scientific knowledge: how do scientists know if current scientific theories are true? Is science progressive? How do scientists test their theories and how are theories confirmed? Can science and pseudoscience be distinguished? How are sciences distinguished from one another? These questions will be discussed in the light of examples from science. During the course of discussing these problems, you will study some of the major positions that have been taken about scientific knowledge both in the history of philosophy and in the 20th century: Inductivism (Bacon), Logical Empiricism (Ayer and Quine), Falsificationism (Popper), Incommensurability (Kuhn) and Relativism (Feyerabend). What does it mean if more than two theories are consistent with the evidence (Quine/Duhem)? Philosophy of Science 1 will provide you with the background knowledge that you will need for other Philosophy courses that you will take in later years. You do not need prior knowledge of philosophy or science to do this course.

Tutor: Dr Emma Tobin

Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 2 x 1-hour lectures and 1 x 1-hour tutorial per week.

Assessment: Critical Review – formative assessment (750 words), 3-hour exam - 50% and essay (2500 words) - 50%

External Examiner: Dr Ian Kidd – University of Nottingham

**HPSC0006 Science Policy**

Introduction to social and political thinking about the role of science and technology in society and the relationship between science and the state. Topics normally include: the role of the state in the promotion, regulation and shaping of science and technology, the idea of scientific autonomy, the moral responsibility of the scientist and the commercialization of science. The course will also focus on focus on current case studies; previous years topics have been geoengineering and biometric technologies. Attend one lecture plus one tutorial per week.

Tutor: Dr Jack Stilgoe

Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 1 x 1-hour lectures and 1 x 1-hour tutorial per week.

Assessment: 3-hour exam - 50% and essay (2500 words) - 50%

External Examiner: TBC –

**HPSC0010 History of Modern Science**

This module provides an overview of the development of the sciences from 1850 to the present, with particular emphasis on the twentieth century. The development of science will be considered in its social, political and cultural contexts. Topics include science in different national contexts, science and war, the development of key new disciplines (such as quantum physics, relativity, genetics, particle physics) as well as the development of older ones. Emphasis will be on the physical and life sciences, with some comparative consideration of the social sciences.

Tutor: Prof Jon Agar

Module information and syllabi are available at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/STS/module-information
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 2 x 1-hour lectures and 1 x 1-hour tutorial per week.
Assessment: 3-hour exam - 50% and essay (2500 words) - 50%
External Examiner: Dr Rebekah Higgitt - University of Kent

*HPSC0011 Investigating History and Philosophy of Science*

The evidence base for historical research comes in the form of original texts, manuscripts, and artefacts. Knowing how to collate, interpret, and weigh these materials is key to research. They don’t speak for themselves. They often conflict. Sometimes they omit more than they provide. This module investigates source material in detail as part of skills training for research in history and philosophy of science. We scrutinise sources of all kinds. We explore filtering processes (such as preservation and translation). We consider how to make the most of source material and how to assess sources for strengths and weaknesses.

Tutor: Dr. William MacLehose
Teaching sessions: Term 2. 1 x 2-hour seminar per week.
Assessment: Research Article/Archival Source (2500 words) - 50%, Essay on Visuals Sources (2500 words) - 50%
External Examiner: Dr Rebekah Higgitt - University of Kent

**Level 2 intermediate modules**

*HPSC0017 Science and Ethics*

Ethical issues of science and technology are constantly of interest to both scientists and the general public. This course covers core ethical theories, alongside at least nine current cases, which are selected by agreement among the students every year. Much of the teaching is discussion-based, with students analysing their chosen cases using the ethical theories. Students are assessed by written work, and they are encouraged to develop that on the case they personally choose, in discussion with the tutor. No prerequisites.

Tutor: Dr. Erman Sozudogru
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 1 x 1-hour lecture & 1 x 1-hour seminar per week.
Assessment: Essay plan (1500 words) - 20%, Research Project (2500 words) - 80%
External Examiner: Dr Ian Kidd – University of Nottingham

*HPSC0036 Engaging Public with Science*

This module focuses on the many different ways in which publics engage with science in face-to-face contexts. Teaching will particularly focus on how scientists can most effectively engage members of the public through direct interactions such as science festivals and museums, and on how specific public groups, such as patient and citizen groups get involved, and engage with, scientific and medical research. Alongside gaining a practical understanding of how to organize such activities, students will also critically reflect on the theory and context that underpins such activities such as models of publics and audiences, rationales for engagement in different contexts and the wider policy contexts and historical trends.

Tutor: Dr Carina Fearnley
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 1 x 2-hour seminar per week.
Assessment: Essay (2,500 words) - 50%, Group Project (2,500 word group word report) - 50%

*Module information and syllabi are available at: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information)*
External Examiner: Dr Declan Fahy - Dublin City University

**HPSC0038 Medicine and Society**
An engaging introduction to history, philosophy, and social studies of the medical sciences, including key concepts in science and technology studies, public engagement with science, and science policy. Using case-studies drawn from contemporary medicine, focus of this module is to encourage students to develop their skills as independent, interdisciplinary and publicly engaged scholars.

Tutor: Dr Brendan Clarke
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 1 x 2-hour session per week.
Assessment: Group coursework 1 (1500 words) – 30%, individual coursework (2500 words) – 40% and group coursework 2 (1500 words) – 30%.

External Examiner: Dr Ian Kidd – University of Nottingham

**HPSC0105 Sociology of Science and Technology**
Examines the complex relationship between science and society. It also takes a sociological look at the process by which knowledge is constructed both through historical and contemporary studies. The module also introduces students to the main currents of thought which have been influential in sociology of science.

Tutor: Dr Erman Sozudogru
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 1 x 2-hour session per week comprising a one hour lecture and one hour seminar discussion.
Assessment: 3-hour exam - 50% and essay (2500 words) - 50%

External Examiner: TBC –

**HPSC0124 Science in Government**
Whether we are talking about climate change, health or the economy, science is increasingly seen as a source of advice and evidence for policymakers throughout government. But what is the relationship between science and decision-making? Where does evidence come from and who are the experts? How are ideas converted into law, treaty and regulation and how are they implemented in within governments? These are some of the questions we consider this course. Drawing on real-life case studies, as well as the academic literature from STS and political science, we will look at how science is used in government, in parliament, at a local and international level, taking account of the many actors and processes that shape this work.

Tutor: Dr Melanie Smallman
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 1 x 2-hour session per week
Assessment: Essay (1200 words) - 30% and Essay (2500 words) - 70%

External Examiner: TBC –

**Level 3 advanced modules**

**HPSC0002 Disease in History**
What is disease? How has our understanding of disease, and people’s experiences of disease, changed over time? This course will give you some new and challenging ways to think about these

Module information and syllabi are available at: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information)
questions. We will take specific diseases such as cholera, tuberculosis, smallpox, plague, malaria and AIDS, and examine their social and medical impact during the past couple of centuries. In doing so, we will trace the interplay of scientific, clinical, social and moral judgments invested in ‘framing’ a disease.

Tutor: TBC
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend two 1-hour sessions per week.
Assessment: Essay one (3500 words) - 80%, Essay two (800 words) - 20%
External Examiner: Dr Rebekah Higgitt - University of Kent

HPSC0050 Philosophy of Natural Sciences
This course explores topics in the philosophy of the natural sciences. In the philosophy of physics, we will address how quantum mechanics has changed our view of physical reality; and how particle physics has had an impact on philosophical debates about realism and antirealism in science, such as recent literature on structural realism. We will interrogate the philosophical literature on mechanisms and causality by considering astrophysical mechanisms. In the philosophy of chemistry, we will assess the periodic table as a system of classification and particular philosophical problems presented by molecular structure and shape and biomolecular visualisation. We will also discuss problems common to both physics and chemistry such as problems of data, simulation and modelling.

Tutor: Dr Emma Tobin
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 1 x 2-hour session per week.
Assessment: 2-hour exam – 50% and essay (3000 words) – 50%
External Examiner: Dr Ian Kidd – University of Nottingham

HPSC0057 Investigating Contemporary Science
This course asks students to use – and develop further - these skills to investigate deeply, assess and present their findings on a chosen issue in the contemporary politics of science. As a third year module, this course has been designed to make most use of acquired skills and knowledge in a way that moves students towards the world of work. In particular, the kinds of capacities demonstrable in a successful completion course are similar to those needed by an investigative reporter or a researcher for a think tank. Through encouraging critical engagement with the political world, this course contributes to UCL STS’s Global Citizenship programme.

Tutor: Dr Melanie Smallman
Teaching sessions: Term 2. 1 x 2-hour lecture
Assessment: Evidence Report (2400 words) – 40% and Report (3000 words) – 60%
External Examiner: TBC –

HPSC0063 History of Social Sciences
[Module description to come. Explores evolving relationships between economics, sociology, history, and anthropology, with an emphasis on late nineteenth and twentieth century.]

Tutor: Dr Tiago Mata
Teaching sessions: Term 2. Students attend 1 x 2-hour seminar per week
Assessment: Coursework (3,500 words) – 80% and Presentation (15 minutes) – 20%
External Examiner: TBC

Module information and syllabi are available at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information
HPSC0066 Science and Film Production

This module combines critical theory of the representation of science in cinema and television with practical production that will enable students to gain skills in scriptwriting, production (filming, lighting, sound recording, interview technique, presentation, narrative, documentary and docudrama genres) and post-production (paper, film and sound editing). The module establishes a social, cultural and intellectual context for production, and offers a strong critical foundation for the effective realization of production work. Teaching enables students to engage collectively with narrative theory in a critical and analytical forum. Students will make productions that will engage with real audiences on the web and other media platforms.

Tutor: Ms Bex Coates
Teaching sessions: Term 2, Students attend 1 x 2-hour seminar per week
Assessment: 5 minute Group Film - 50%, Essay (2000 words) - 50%
External Examiner: Dr Declan Fahy - Dublin City University

HPSC0069 Science in Nineteenth Century London

The nineteenth century experienced a tremendous expansion of science. This module explores that expansion through the lens of popularization, public engagement, and presentation. We cover a variety of settings, including museums, lecture halls, publishing devices, parlours, and private collections. We also cover a variety of communities and types of activities, including professional societies, amateur clubs, working men’s clubs, and ephemeral consumer activity. How did the many venues come together to create an integrated world in which science was experienced? How do historians relate science in public to science done elsewhere? Do STS analytical tools and concepts help us understand historical activity related to science in public? This module includes visits to some of the surviving attractions of nineteenth century science.

Tutor: Professor Joe Cain
Teaching sessions: Term 2. 1 x 2-hour session
Assessment: Essay (5000 words) – 100%
External Examiner: TBC

HPSC0107 Science Journalism

A practical course in communicating science based around three key tasks: (1) writing science news and feature articles suitable for New Scientist or the science pages of the ‘quality’ press; (2) carrying out a radio interview, such as might be broadcast on Radio 4’s Science Now; (3) reporting on a piece of novel science to a committee of MPs who need to be aware both of the science content of the work and potential policy issues. Issues in the public understanding of science are discussed from this practical standpoint of communication. This module is time intensive and requires substantial group work.

Tutor: Dr Jean-Baptiste Gouyon
Teaching sessions: Term 2. 1 x 1-hour lecture, 1 x 2-hour practical session per week
Assessment: News Article (500 words) - 10%, Feature Article (2500 words) - 50%, Group Work - 40%
External Examiner: Dr Declan Fahy - Dublin City University

HPSC0111 Science, Art and Philosophy

This module explores the interactions between science and art from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Its philosophical focus is the notion of “representation”, conceived as a crucial common link.
between scientific and artistic visual practices. Integrating the history and philosophy of scientific and artistic representations, the course will address a broad range of issues. These will include questions on the nature and role of visual representations in scientific and artistic practice, what counts as "objective" and "accurate" representation, when and how images count as "evidence", and whether the relations between science and modernism contribute to overturn the common sense view that "art invents, science discovers".

Tutor: Dr Chiara Ambrosio

Teaching Sessions: Term 2, students attend 1 x 2-hour lecture, 1 x 1-hour seminar per week.

Assessment: Poster - 40%, Article (2500 words) – 40%, Presentation (10 minutes) – 20%

External Examiner: TBC
2018-19 Terms 1 and 2

Level 2 intermediate modules

HPSC0019 Human Sciences in Society
[This module is open only to students on the Human Sciences degree programmes.]
Tutor: Dr Simon Lock
Teaching sessions: Terms 1 and 2. 1 x 1-hour seminar per week.
Assessment: Coursework (100%); no exam; to be ‘complete’, students must submit all coursework and attend at least 70% of sessions, including the compulsory sessions.
External Examiner: TBC –

Level 3 advanced modules

HPSC0041 Dissertation
Students undertake a research project of their own design in the field of history and philosophy of science or science and technology studies. Students organise their own supervision (in consultation with staff), and discussion of research progress is undertaken during regular supervisions. Students submit a 10,000-word dissertation summarising their findings. They deliver presentations on their work. This is a full-year, one course unit research module for third-year students. This module is compulsory for all STS BSc students. It also is available, by permission, to students in other degree programmes.
Co-ordinator: Dr Simon Lock
Meeting sessions: Terms 1 and 2. Fortnightly tutorials with supervisor.
Assessment: Presentation (15 minutes) - 20%, Plan/Proposal (1000 words) – 10%, Dissertation (10,000 words) - 70%.

HPSC0053 Research Project (iBSc)
This is a full-year, one course-unit module for students doing the Intercalated BSc in the Department of Science and Technology Studies. Students undertake a research project largely of their own design and direction in the field of science and technology studies. An appropriate supervisor is agreed with the course coordinator, and research is discussed during regular tutorials. Students submit a literature survey and a 10,000-word research paper summarising their finding. They also deliver an oral presentation describing their work-in-progress.
Co-ordinator: Dr Simon Lock
Meeting Sessions: Terms 1 and 2 fortnightly tutorials with supervisor.
Assessment: Coursework (1200 words) -10%, Presentation Term 2 (20 minutes) (15%), Dissertation (10,000 words) (75%)

Module information and syllabi are available at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/module-information