

Proposal for a Minor Program of Study

School/College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department/Division: History

Minor Name: History of Science, Medicine, and Engineering

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2022

Which campus(es) will offer this program: Athens

CIP: 54010401

Program Description:

The proposed minor in the History of Science, Medicine, and Engineering aims to give undergraduates a solid foundation in the historical foundations of the so-called “STEM” disciplines that have attracted a growing number of majors in recent years. This minor is meant to appeal to students majoring in these disciplines, but it is also open to any student interested in studying the history of science, technology, and medicine.

Courses in the proposed minor will enable students to develop the competencies associated with training in the humanities. For students in engineering, computer science, biology, public health, psychology, and other scientific, technical, and medical disciplines, a minor in the History of Science, Medicine, and Engineering may also provide an edge in the job market, enabling students to argue that their undergraduate training has given them both specialized technical skills as well as more general, transferable skills necessary for success in the contemporary labor market.

Student learning outcomes for this program include: 1) Develop an awareness of the historical roots of technical, medical, and scientific fields; 2) Acquire an understanding of how these fields became professionalized and integrated into the larger economy; 3) Read and analyze historical documents in order to practice developing cogent, persuasive arguments in writing; and 4) Develop communication skills consistent with students’ academic and professional goals.

Though this minor does not require any specific core courses, it is designed with the expectation that academic advisors will steer students toward courses that reflect their primary training. For example, a student whose primary major is in the College of Engineering would be strongly encouraged to take a course in the History of Engineering; a student majoring in Psychology would be steered toward a course in the History of Psychiatry; a student majoring in Ecology would be directed toward a course on environmental history; and so forth.

Program of Study and Requirements

Students pursuing a minor in the History of Science, Engineering, and Medicine must take fifteen hours of coursework from the following list. There is no geographical or topical focus; any five courses drawn from the following list will suffice, subject to the following rules.

- *No more than one of the five courses can be taken outside of the HIST prefix*
- *Courses taken to satisfy Core Areas I through V may not be counted toward the minor.*
- *Courses taken to satisfy Core Area VI may count for the minor.*
- *All courses used to satisfy the minor must be passed with a grade of “C” (2.0) or better.*
- *No transfer courses may be used to count toward this minor field.*

Department	Course #	Course Title
ASTR	1660	History of Astronomy
ATSC(GEOG)	3135	Hidden Figures in the Atmospheric Sciences
CLAS	3040	Ancient Science and Technology
HIST	3160	American Environmental History
HIST	3160H	American Environmental History (Honors)
HIST	3342	History of the Life Sciences
HIST	3343	History of Psychiatry
HIST	3421	History of Ancient and Medieval Science
HIST	3425	History of Engineering
HIST	3430	History of Architecture
HIST	3432	History of Modern Science
HIST	3432H	History of Modern Science (Honors)
HIST	3433	History of Medicine
HIST	3725	Environmental History of the Modern World
HIST	3727	History of Computing, the Internet, and AI
HIST	3740	Disease and Human History
HIST	3742	Death: A Human History
HIST	3750	History of Science Fiction
HIST(GLOB)(LACS)	3770	Pandemic! Infectious Disease in Global History
HIST	4065/6065	History of American Medicine to 1865
HIST	4066/6066	History of American Medicine, 1865 to the Present
HIST	4067/6067	Technology in American Culture
HIST (CLAS)	4225/6225	Medicine, Healing, and the Body in Ancient Greece and Rome
HIST	4430/6430	History of Science and Religion in Western Society
HIST	4432/6432	Newton, Einstein, Bohr: History and Philosophical Lessons of Modern Physics
HIST	4435/6435	History of Russian Science from Eastern Exploration to Space Age
HIST	4440/6440	The Nuclear Age: Science, Bombs, and the World Order in the Twentieth Century
HIST	4445/6445	A Global History of Drugs
HIST	4445W	A Global History of Drugs
HIST	4620/6620	The Chinese Industrial Revolution
PSYC	4920	History of Psychology

Justification:

In recent years, students at the University of Georgia have gravitated in growing numbers to pre-professional majors, particularly those associated with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. The conventional History Minor is defined by geography, not subject area. As a consequence, it does not permit these students to explore the discipline in a way that complements their primary field of study. By contrast, this new minor field is tailor-made to accommodate the needs and wishes of students pursuing studies in the history of science, technology, and medicine, offering a range of upper-level courses designed to meet this demand.