from the fields of gender and ethnic studies, the GRCST minor examines the role of cultural, ethical, social, political, and economic factors in determining the norms, values and meanings of scientific, technological, and medical practices, with an emphasis on the ways in which the production and applications of science, technology, and medicine shape and are shaped by knowledge and beliefs about gender, race, class, and sexuality. Students completing the GRCST minor will gain important intellectual and practical skills for creating, enacting, and evaluating efforts to create more socially just, equitable, and inclusive science, technology, and medicine in an increasingly diverse and globalized world.

Media Arts, Society and Technology Minor

The Media Arts, Society & Technology (MAST) minor encourages students to explore the ways in which the media arts are enabled and shaped by progress in science and technology while also being uniquely situated to promote engagement with and critical reflection about the meanings of scientific, technical, and social progress. Throughout the MAST minor, students are provided with the opportunity to develop and refine their expertise in the creative, visual, communicative, and performing arts, such as film, video, still photography, sound design, stage and lighting design, computer graphics, and interactive entertainment. Through hands-on projects and explorations of media history and theory, students completing the MAST minor will develop and apply knowledge and skills in conceptual and critical thinking, media literacy, teamwork, leadership, interdisciplinary collaboration, and project management, and will be prepared to function as both cultural commentators and creators positioned to address and respond to the profound challenges and choices we face in the 21st century.

Science and Risk Communication Minor

The Science and Risk Communication (SRC) minor enables students to investigate how individuals and societies create, disseminate, maintain, and challenge perceptions of science, technology, and risk in multiple contexts. Such contexts might include doctor-patient interactions, public understanding of and engagement with global climate change or technology development, and scientific testimony in public policy hearings. Through hands-on projects, SRC students will develop and practice specific skills for communicating about science, technology, and risk to various audiences across multiple media formats. A broad range of elective courses allows students to customize the SRC minor to their particular interests, enabling them to pursue knowledge in a focused subject area or further refine communication production skills. Students completing the SRC minor will be prepared to understand, engage with, respond to, and communicate about the profound challenges and choices we face related to science, technology, and risk in the 21st century.

ISLA Courses

ISLA 123. Introduction to Science, Technology & Society. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: W, SP
Introductory exploration of science, technology, and society relationships from interdisciplinary perspectives in the arts, communications, humanities, and social sciences. Topic areas include ethics and public policy; gender, race and culture; media arts and society; science and risk communication. 4 lectures.
ISLA 240. Introduction to Media Arts and Technologies. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F, SP  
Prerequisite: Completion of GE C3. Recommended: TH 210.  
The intimate connection between the desire for artistic expression  
and current technologies that can assist that expression. Examination  
of technologies for theater, sound, cinema, gaming, and embodied  
media. Guest speakers with expertise. 4 lectures. Formerly HUM 240.

ISLA 303. Values and Technology. 4 units  
GE Area C4  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A and one course  
from GE Area C.  
Humanistic investigation into the theoretical and practical applications  
of technology with specific reference to the social effects of  
technological change. For all majors. Non-technical. 4 lectures.  
Crosslisted as HNRS 304/ISLA 303. Fulfills GE C4. Formerly HUM 303.

ISLA 310. Humanities in World Cultures. 4 units  
GE Area C4  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP, SU  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A and one course  
from Area C.  
Interdisciplinary examination of the humanities in a selected culture.  
Special focus on the arts, literature, philosophy and language in that  
culture. The Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. Total credit  
limited to 12 units with different subtopic. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE C4.  
Formerly HUM 310.

ISLA 312. Humanities in Chicano/a Culture. 4 units  
GE Area C4; USCP  
Term Typically Offered: SP  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A and one course  
from Area C.  
Interdisciplinary examination of humanities in Chicano culture. Special  
focus on the arts, literature, social situations, and the monolingual and  
bi-lingual language aspects in Chicano culture. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE  
C4 and USCP. Formerly HUM 312.

ISLA 315. Critical Issues in Latin American Studies. 4 units  
GE Area D5  
Term Typically Offered: TBD  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A and two  
courses in lower division GE Area D (D2 and D3 recommended).  
An interdisciplinary approach to selected topics and issues that  
directly address how social, economic, political, and cultural forces have  
shaped the challenges that face contemporary Latin America.  
Descriptive subtitles assigned to each course. The Schedule of  
Classes will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 12 units. 4  
lectures. Fulfills GE D5. Formerly HUM 315.

ISLA 316. London: From Roman Colony to World Capital. 4 units  
GE Area D5  
Term Typically Offered: SU  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; enrollment in London Study; completion  
of GE Area A; completion of two courses in GE Area D or consent of  
instructor. Corequisite: Enrollment in ISLA 319.  
Selective examination of the historical and cultural legacy of London  
within the development of Western civilization as well as its influence  
on the submission and eventual emergence of the non-Western world  
in the twentieth century. An analytical and interpretive study of how  
London shaped the social, economic, political and legal institutions of  
Western society. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5. Formerly HUM 316.

ISLA 318. Culture of Spain: Activities. 2 units  
CR/NC  
Term Typically Offered: F  
Prerequisite: Limited to Valladolid, Spain Fall program. Corequisite:  
ISLA 310.  
Examination and experience of Spanish culture via participant  
observation in Spain. An introductory exploration of the development of  
Spanish architecture, art, literature, music, theatre and popular culture  
as experienced in Valladolid, Spain. Credit/No Credit grading only. 2  
activities. Formerly HUM 318.

ISLA 319. London Activities. 2 units  
CR/NC  
Term Typically Offered: SU  
Prerequisite: Limited to London Study students.  
Analytical and interpretive survey of the principal center of the  
English speaking world. The development of London from Roman  
administrative capital to modern cultural, financial and political  
colossus. Credit/No Credit grading only. 2 activities. Formerly HUM 319.

ISLA 320. Topics and Issues in Values, Media and Culture. 4 units  
GE Area C4  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A; and  
completion of one of the following: GE Area C1, C2 or C3.  
Recommended: Completion of GE Area C1 or C3.  
The interplay of values, media, and culture from an interdisciplinary  
perspective. Descriptive subtitles assigned to each course. The  
Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. 4 lectures. Total credit  
limited to 8 units with different subtopic; repeatable in same term.  
Crosslisted as HNRS/ISLA 320. Fulfills GE C4.

GE Area F  
Term Typically Offered: SP  
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Areas A and B.  
Scientific investigation of the natural features of the Cal Poly landscape  
and their transformations by land management technology. Analysis of  
the environmental, economic, social, and political effects of agriculture,  
resource extraction, and construction technology on that landscape.  
Emphasis on the educational, land-use, and long term planning issues  
of technology presented by this case study. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as  
AG/ISLA/UNIV 330. Fulfills GE Area F.
ISLA 340. Media Arts and Technologies: Storytelling. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F, W  
Prerequisite: ISLA 240 or the completion of an ART or TH course in GE Area C3.  
Creation of expressive technology-based pre-production works for standard television and film presentation to interactive technological environments. Pre-production script work, storyboarding, flow chart design, collaborative story creation, audience testing, and basic animatic construction. Visiting professionals work with students directly in collaborative workshops. 3 lectures, 1 activity. Formerly HUM 340.

ISLA 341. Media Arts and Technologies: Cinematic Process. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W, SP  
Prerequisite: ISLA 340.  
Cinematic production including adapting a narrative for different presentation formats, storyboarding, lighting, sound recording, cinematography and editing. Production of short works designed as foundational pieces that can be built upon individually or in teams in independent study. Visiting professionals run collaborative production workshops. 2 lectures, 2 activities. Formerly HUM 341.

ISLA 350. The Global Environment. 4 units  
GE Area F  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Areas A and B.  
Interdisciplinary investigation of how human activities impact the Earth's environment on a global scale. Examination of population, resource use, climate change, and biodiversity from scientific/technical and social/economic/historical/political perspectives. Use of remote sensing maps. Sustainable solutions. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as AG/EDES/ENGR/ISLA/SCM/UNIV 350. Fulfills GE Area F.

ISLA 400. Independent Study Project. 1-4 units  
Term Typically Offered: TBD  
Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing and consent of instructor.  
Independent study project focusing more than one discipline on a problem of study related to the liberal arts. May involve travel and/or independent research. Bibliography and study plan submitted in advance. Total credit limited to 8 units. Formerly HUM 400.

ISLA 450. Summer Internship in London. 12 units  
CR/NC  
Term Typically Offered: TBD  
Prerequisite: Junior standing and consent of the Director of London Study.  
Extensive work experience in London. Administration, orientation, and supervision of independent work by the service provider. Intensive two-week orientation, eight-week full-time work assignment. Evaluation by instructor, internship supervisor, and employer. Credit/No Credit grading only. 4 lectures, 8 units of independent study. Formerly HUM 450.

ISLA 451. Latin American Studies Internship. 4-12 units  
CR/NC  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP, SU  
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.  
Supervised work experience in a private, governmental, or non-governmental organization working in Latin America or on a critical issue related to Latin America. Student engagement in all duties and responsibilities of employees and interns engaged in comparable work. 30 hours of work experience per unit of credit. Total credit limited to 12 units. Credit/No Credit grading only. Formerly HUM 451.

ISLA 456. Advanced Project-Based Learning in Science, Technology & Society. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: SP  
Prerequisite: ISLA 123; completion of GE area A; completion of GE Area B2 or B3; Junior standing; minor in one of the following: Ethics, Public Policy, Science and Technology; Gender, Race, Culture, Science, and Technology; Media Arts, Society and Technology; or Science and Risk Communication.  
Develop, maintain and lead teams in a project investigating complex multi-disciplinary issues in science, technology and society. Integrate knowledge across the minors. 2 lectures, 2 activities.

ISLA 470. Selected Advanced Topics. 2-4 units  
Term Typically Offered: TBD  
Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area A and junior standing.  
Focused interdisciplinary study of an issue impacting or impacted by the liberal arts, combining the insight and expertise of more than one of the liberal arts disciplines, especially as they interface with the sciences and technology and/or international studies in a study abroad setting. The Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 8 units; repeatable in same term. 2-4 lectures. Formerly HUM 470.