HASTS Common Exam List

Version of Fall 2015 (9/16/15)

The Common Exam List serves as a reading list for Field 3 of the General Examinations required of students in MIT’s Doctoral Program in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society (HASTS). The List represents the interdisciplinary conversation that is HASTS and encompasses social, historical, and cultural perspectives on science and technology. Any faculty member within the HASTS Program may supervise this list.

Sources are listed within sections in chronological order of publication. In approaching edited volumes, read the Introduction and a couple of representative chapters in consultation with the faculty member with whom you are reading the list.

The Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) collects feedback and suggestions for additions and deletions on an ongoing basis. Changes are made to the published list every few years. The DGS works with a committee of students to revise the list, and HASTS faculty then certify it.

All students read modules 1-5, and then select at least 5 additional modules from among sections 6-14 or modify or add in comparable modules in consultation with faculty.

**1. Philosophies of Science from Positivism to Antipositivism**


**suggested contextual essay**

2. Sociologies of Scientific Institutions and Knowledge


suggested review essay


3. Actor-Network Theory, Cyborgs, and Nonhuman Agency


**suggested review books**


**4. Science as Practice and Material Culture**


**suggested review essay**

5. Technological Determinism vs. Social Constructions of Technology


suggested review sources


6. Gender, Science, and Feminist STS


7. *Scientific Selves; Technology and Identity*


**suggested review essay**

8. Environment, Animals, Agriculture, and “The Natural”


*suggested review essays*


9. Law, Authority, and Property in Science and Technology


**suggested review essay**


**10. Politics, Expertise, Planning, Security**


Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway, *Merchants of Doubt: How a Handful of Scientists Obscured the Truth on Issues from Tobacco Smoke to Global Warming*. 
(London: Bloomsbury, 2010).

11. Media and Mediation: Representation, Visualization, Sensing


Lorraine Daston and Peter Galison, Objectivity (New York: Zone, 2007).


suggested review essay


12. Calculation, Networks, Feedback, Management


Joanne Yates, Control through Communication (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989).


**suggested review essay**

**13. Biology, Biomedicine, and Biopolitics**
suggested review essays


14. Postcolonialism, Power and Global Technoscience


suggested review essay

FURTHER RESOURCES

Readers and General Introductions

Some Major Journals in the Field

*Social Studies of Science*: http://sss.sagepub.com/

*Isis*: http://www.press.uchicago.edu/ucp/journals/journal/isis.html

*Science, Technology, and Human Values*: http://sth.sagepub.com/

*Technology and Culture*: http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/technology_and_culture/

*Science as Culture*: www.tandfonline.com/toc/csac20/current

A more extensive list is here: http://www.4sonline.org/resources/journals