

Key Competencies Certificate

Science, Technology and Society (STS)

Qualification profile

With a Key Competencies Certificate – Science, Technology and Society (STS), graduates prove a deeper understanding of the fundamental importance of science and technology for contemporary societies. The Science, Technology and Society certificate is designed with interdisciplinarity in mind and based on the internationally established subject area "Science, Technology and Society Studies". It therefore provides graduates with point of contact to all of the study programmes offered at Graz University of Technology. The certificate is intended to enable graduates to contribute responsibly to overcoming social challenges and to work towards the prosperous development of the economy, society and the natural environment (§ 1 Universities Act 2002).

Personal qualification

Graduates have the following skills and knowledge:

- understanding and reflecting on the interrelationships between science, technology and society
- being familiar with introductory literature and able to relate it to subject-specific problems in their respective undergraduate studies
- evaluating empirical methods and analytical research approaches critically based on selected subject areas and case studies

Areas of activity of certificate holders

The certificate is designed with the possibility in mind that of scientific and technical developments can be influenced and considers this an important social task. Stakeholders from private companies, public institutions and civil society organisations are involved in the design of research and development. For a fruitful cooperation, however, intermediary actors in particular are absolutely necessary as they are able to mediate between different organisations and interest groups, providing expertise and moderating decision-making processes. Graduates of the Key Competencies Certificate – Science, Technology and Society are qualified to meet these (professional) requirements. The courses in the certificate programme allow participants to acquire relevant skills and therefore promote:

- an understanding of the constitutive importance of science and technology for society
- an understanding of the social aspects of scientific and technical development
- the skills to deal with the involvement of stakeholders and civil society actors
- the ability to mediate between and bring together different disciplinary perspectives

Content

Completion of the “Basic” Key Competencies Certificate STS requires a total of 16 ECTS credit points¹, of which 8 ECTS credit points (*) are compulsory and 8 ECTS credit points can be freely selected from the list below.

Completion of the “Advanced” Key Competencies Certificate STS requires a total of 32 ECTS credit points, of which 16 ECTS credit points (*) are the “Basic” Key Competencies Certificate STS and another 16 ECTS credit points can be freely selected from the list below.

		SSt	Course Type	ECTS	WS	SS
706.725	(*) Science, Technology and Society: Core Concepts and Case Studies	2	VO	4	x	
706.224	(*) Technik - Ethik – Politik	2	VU	4		x
706.001	Technikfolgenabschätzung	2	SE	4	x	
706.071	Technikfolgenabschätzung	2	SE	4		x
706.004	Nachhaltige Technikgestaltung	2	VU	4	x	
706.076	Science, Technology and Society: Interdisciplinary Approaches	1	SE	2	x	
706.077	Science, Technology and Society: Interdisciplinary Approaches	1	SE	2		x
706.221	Technik und Geschlecht I	2	SE	4	x	
706.223	Technik und Geschlecht II	2	SE	4		x
706.158	Technology and Law: IT-Law – Basics and Special Issues / Technik und Recht: IT-Recht – Grundlagen und Sonderfragen	2	VU	4	x	
706.227	Futurology	2	VU	4	x	
706.053	Critical Readings in Data Science 1	2	UE	4	x	
706.055	Critical Readings in Data Science 2	2	UE	4		x
706.501	Das Fahrrad: Geschichte – Innovation – Mobilität	2	VU/EX	4		x
706.049	Felder soziologischer Forschung: Wissenschafts- und Techniksoziologie	2	SE	6	x	
706.078	Utopia and Dystopia of Technology	2	SE	4		x
706.506	Self-Optimisation and Digitalisation of the Body	2	SE	4		x
Tbc.	Technikgeschichte	2	VU	4	x	
Tbc.	Exkursion Technikgeschichte	2	EX	4	x	
Tbc.	Special Topics in STS – Science, Technology and Society (A)	1	SE	2	x	x
Tbc.	Special Topics in STS – Science, Technology and Society (B)	2	SE	4	x	x

¹ The ECTS credit points given in TUGRAZonline relate to specific curricula and may differ from or be changed from the ones given here. The amount of ECTS credit points listed here are used to issue the certificate.