

PATHWAYS MINORS

TECH FOR HUMANITY

What is it?

The Tech for Humanity minor explores the myriad ways that the development, role, and impact of technologies are closely intertwined with humanity. A comprehensive understanding of any technology includes awareness of the human dimensions of its creation, adoption, use, and effects in societal and cultural contexts.



Why do it?



This minor adds human perspectives to a solid base of scientific knowledge and empowers students to see the practical and impractical uses of today's technologies. Throughout the Tech for Humanity minor, a human-centered approach to technology complements technical skills coursework already in the university curriculum. This approach ensures an appropriate focus and context while students explore the various impacts technology has, for better or worse, in their work and lives.

Who is it for?

This minor is designed to benefit students in any degree program at Virginia Tech by providing them with a comprehensive, humanistic understanding of technology for the practical application and use of technology for overall personal and social good. Students in technical fields will benefit from the humanistic context provided by this minor, and students in humanistic fields will be able to explore the intersections of humanistic work with new technological developments.

Pathways Core Concepts*

- 2 - Critical Thinking in the Humanities
- 3 - Reasoning in the Social Sciences
- 5f - Foundational Quantitative and Computational Thinking
- 5a - Advanced Quantitative and Computational Thinking
- 6d - Critique and Practice in Design
- 7 - Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States

Pathways Integrative Concepts

Ethical Reasoning
Intercultural and Global Awareness

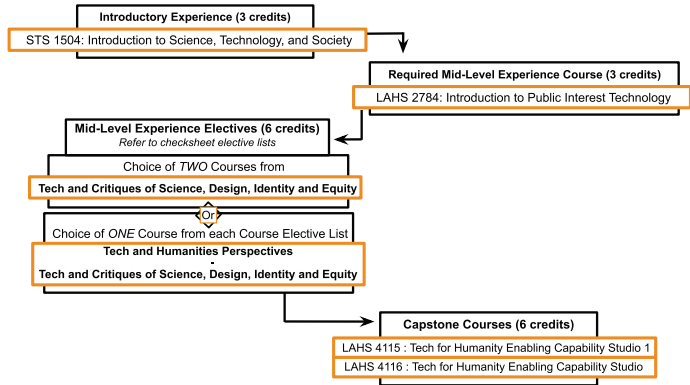
*Students are guaranteed to meet at least three of the core concepts listed

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Requirements

The 18-hour minor in Tech for Humanity includes a 3-hour introductory course, a 3-hour mid-level course, 6 hours of electives, and 2 3-hour capstone courses.



Required courses

STS 1504: Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society

LAHS 2784: Introduction to Public Interest Technology

LAHS 4115: Tech for Humanity Enabling Capability Studio 1

LAHS 4116: Tech for Humanity Enabling Capability Studio 2

Elective courses

Students take one elective each from two elective course tracks drawing courses from several disciplines. This two-track slate of electives allows students to customize their focus to the social issues with technology that concern them. For a complete list of elective courses, consult the checksheet found at <https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/minors/tech-for-humanity-minor/>.



- Learn about the impact of technology in culture and society from a humanistic perspective.
- Understand how to identify a sociotechnical problem and apply humanistic and social/behavioral research methods to the problem.
- Consider potential solutions through technological and/or process design or proposed policy.
- Explore humanistic approaches to technology for the public interest.

www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors

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PATHWAYS TO GENERAL EDUCATION