Revision of Science Technology Society stand-alone minor:

**Rationale:**
The key course in this concentration was (is) SCIN 210, Science Technology and Society. This course is also required of the STS concentration in the Integrated Science Studies major; and was in the TAS School Core (SCP category) until Fall 2017, when the School Core was removed. Given the enrollments in the INSS major and STS minor, there are insufficient students to merit offering this course (which has been taught by a long-term adjunct).

ARC has already received a request to revise the STS concentration in the INSS major, due to the status of the SCIN 210 course, and a desire to focus the concentration more on the intersection of science and society, with a more science-based focus.

The current request is to revise the STS minor, for the same reasons: inability to offer SCIN 210, and science literacy. These revisions would also result in the minor mirroring the concentration in the major (in much the same way that the other concentrations mirror their respective minors). Due to the current limits on double-counting, a student cannot pick up the minor that corresponds to their concentration in INSS, and that will still be the case here.

Please note that the STS minor does not show up in the 2019-2020 catalog; the decision was made in TAS due to low enrollments, combined with an inability to conduct meaningful assessment in the standalone minor (because the courses are “all over the place”!).

**The revisions:**

**Revised title of minor:** Science and Society

**Revised curriculum**

- *Courses that are underlined are already in the STS minor.*
- *Courses that are asterisked are in the Gen Ed program.*
- *Some courses have prerequisites; however, there is either one alternative course in that category that lacks prerequisites (and/or has a prereq in Gen Ed), or a different combination of categories can be selected to avoid prereqs.*

**Required courses:**

- *SCIN 295, Development of Scientific Thought*

Take ONE course from FOUR of the following 5 categories (total 4 courses).

- Category 1: Earth processes and society
- GEOL 210 Natural Hazards* or GEOL 333 Environmental Geology
- Category 2: climate change
  o ENSC 305 Climate Change Science or ENST 240 Climate Change and Society*
- Category 3: Biological sciences
  o BIOL 346 Food Science or BIOL 347 Medicinal Plants or SCIN 310 AIDS: Biological, Medical and Social Perspectives*
- Category 4: natural resources
  o ENSC 230 Sustainable Natural Resources or ENST 223 Energy and Society or GEOG 210 Water Resources* or GEOG 304 Forest Resources
- Category 5: Policy and Law
  o ENST 207 Public Policy or ENST 317 Environmental Policy and Regulation or ENST 326 Environmental Law
- Category 6: Communicating Science
  o SCIN 435 Writing about science for public media

Note: assessment will take place using the required course, SCIN 295 (which is also used for assessment in the INSS major).