Innovation in Society, BS

You can play an important part in designing better futures for all of us when you understand the role and impact science and technology have in society. Learn how to critique, analyze and build strategies around innovations to create solutions for society's most pressing problems.

Program Description

The BS program in innovation in society is designed to help students cultivate the critical thinking skills needed for developing creative strategies that steer innovations toward the needs and values of society. Students are trained to synthesize research and theory from the social sciences, humanities, natural sciences and engineering so they can develop proposals for how to build better futures.

No single discipline is able to solve the complex problems society faces today. Science and engineering can help us further values such as health, economic prosperity, security, justice, peace, sustainability, privacy and happiness. But innovations need to be developed and deployed carefully and with an understanding of a global context that includes corporations, governments, infrastructure and people.

Students in this major learn to consider the implications of technology before it is deployed and understand the big picture so that they can bring together the pieces needed to form a successful strategy. Classes include extensive use of interactive activities and projects.

The program is specifically tailored for students who have a background or interest in the engineering, science and quantitative social science aspects of innovation who want to play a pivotal role in bringing different disciplines together to solve the world's most difficult problems.

At a Glance

- College/School: College of Global Futures
- Location: Tempe campus or Online, ASU Local
Required Courses (Major Map)

2022 - 2023 Major Map (On-campus)
2022 - 2023 Major Map (Online)
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent Program Options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a double major) earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

Global Technology and Development, MS
Science and Technology Policy, MSTP

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students are advised by their academic departments to apply.

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
Freshman | Transfer | International | Readmission

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to https://changemajor.applications.asu.edu for information about how to change a major to this program.
Attend Online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

ASU Local

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with ASU Local, an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support. Those interested may learn more about ASU Local here.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU™ to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/MyPath2ASU.

Program Learning Outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Analyze and deconstruct complex social, technological, legal, ethical and social justice issues using multiple strategies.
- Apply foresight methods to analyze emerging trends and plausible futures.
- Design creative strategies to address current societal and technological challenges.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

New innovations impact lives around the world. Students in the program can study these innovations alongside ASU faculty in places like Dubai, the Sea of Cortez, Puerto Rico, Morocco and Antarctica. Studying abroad expands students’ knowledge of different places, cultures and people; enhances research experience; and challenges students to persevere in unfamiliar circumstances. https://goglobal.asu.edu/

The School for the Future of Innovation in Society recommends the following study abroad programs for students majoring in innovation in society: https://goglobal.asu.edu/students/major/innovation-society.
Career Opportunities

The rapid advances in science and technology are providing both opportunities and challenges for employers around the world. Corporations, government agencies and nonprofits all need people who are equipped to understand what those changes mean for the organization's goals and operations. They need people who can understand how innovation happens, have the analytical skills to deal with complex challenges, and can develop effective strategies and policies to guide change.

Graduates of this program have the skills to work collaboratively with experts from a variety of backgrounds in a variety of sectors providing problem-solving, analysis, quality assurance, future planning, technology assessment, and communication and facilitation on issues related to innovation in science and technology. Graduates are well prepared for careers in the tech sector, nonprofits and government.

Graduates are also prepared for advanced education (e.g., MBA, policy, social work, global development) and graduate research across a variety of disciplines. From the School for the Future of Innovation in Society's 2021 alumni employment survey, 83% of undergraduate alumni that responded are either employed or pursuing continuing education. Of those respondents employed, 60% have jobs directly related to their degree.

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>$185,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compliance Manager</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Manager (GM)</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>$103,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>$63,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Fund Manager</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>$134,180</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Manager</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Analyst</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>$125,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politician</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>$33,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences Professor</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>$69,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind Energy Project Manager</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

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Contact Information

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