

**HIS 238**  
**Science, Technology, and Medicine in Western Civilization II**

Summer Session II  
Online Asynchronous

Satisfies DEC: H | SBC: STAS  
Thematic Category: "Health, Science & Environmental Change"

Instructor: Charlotte Rossler

How did science become such an instrumental part of our daily lives and the potential solution to our many individual and global problems? In this course, we will survey the development of modern science in the West and beyond from the French Revolution in 1789 to the present. Over the course of those over two centuries, how we conceive of science—how it is done, who does it, and what it means—has shifted dramatically in tandem with how we understand the world and society. We will examine several branches of science, including physics, biology, geology, anthropology, medicine, and ecology, in order to assess these changes. Readings will include academic articles and chapters, primary sources, and short videos or podcasts. Assessment will be based on short exercises, reading responses, and a final paper on a scientific, medical, or technological field of your choosing.