The Innovation in Society major is a unique program that teaches students to think critically and constructively about technology-in-society and about the futures they want to create—individually and collectively. In small, interactive classes students explore the influences, origins, histories, impacts, and values of science and technology. Real-world projects ensure that learning is directed at challenges beyond the classroom walls. Faculty-led study abroad programs allow students to consider and act on the local and global forces that shape innovation. The undergraduate research program trains them to investigate, analyze, and communicate new and relevant information about important challenges facing Arizona, the country, and the globe.

In our courses, students learn:

• How futures are envisioned and created
• How innovation is shaped by and in turn shapes society
• How different disciplines come together to address complex problems
• How to envision possible futures so that we can work toward the best ones
• How individuals and groups like governments and corporations shape our future

SFIS offers two undergraduate degrees, one minor, and one undergraduate certificate.

• Bachelor of Arts in Innovation in Society
• Bachelor of Science in Innovation in Society
• Minor in Innovation in Society (15 credits)
• Innovation for Impact Certificate (15 credits)

Many of our students pursue a second major beyond SFIS, and accelerated master’s degrees are available as well.
The School for the Future of Innovation in Society (SFIS) is a transdisciplinary unit at the vanguard of ASU’s commitment to linking innovation to public value. We are pursuing a vision of responsible innovation that anticipates challenges and opportunities, integrates diverse knowledge and perspectives, and engages broad audiences. By examining the ways we translate imagination into innovation — and how we blend technical and social concerns along the way — we learn to build a future for everyone.

CHANGE THE WORLD THROUGH INNOVATION

How can we address the world’s biggest challenges?

Innovation happens socially and technologically. This concept of innovation-in-society – that human lives, identities, communities, and institutions are intertwined with technologies – is at the core of the School for the Future of Innovation in Society (SFIS). Our nationally recognized, highly interdisciplinary faculty teach students to make sense of the complexity of innovation-in-society to help them make a difference in the world.

CAREERS

SFIS graduates carry with them the imagination, critical thinking, problem solving, and research skills that employers across sectors are looking for. As a graduate, you will have the ability to develop policies for local governments or strategies for international corporations. You will have the collaborative skills to work with diverse members of your team, making any organization you work for truly innovative. Your research and analysis will help define the challenges to which innovation is directed, and your problem-solving skills will help advance innovations that bring about a better future for everyone.

You will imagine a new way forward.

“Your’re in a place designed to help you figure out and pursue what you care about. You’re surrounded by skilled people doing awesome things, and who will help you do your own awesome things. Take advantage of it!”

— J.P. Nelson, Bachelor of Science, Innovation in Society

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