

TUFTS RULES ON DOUBLE-COUNTING AND REQUIREMENTS

GUIDE FOR STS STUDENTS

This is an informational document for STS students about the somewhat arcane Tufts rules on double-counting courses for majors and requirements. The information should be helpful for Tufts students in any degree programs.

Majors

Half of the courses taken towards a major can count towards another major. If the student has only 2 majors, then whichever has the fewer required courses determines what may double-count. For example, if a student is majoring in STS (10 course requirements) and international relations (12 courses), then up to 5 courses could double-count.

Courses taken for a major *may* double-count with foundation or distribution requirements. For example, an STS course might count for social science distribution, or might count for world civilization. (Nothing can triple-count, though.) There's no restriction on how many courses from the major can double-count for distribution except the Tufts-wide rule that no more than 2 of the 10 distribution courses can be from the same department. (One can sometimes work around this with creative use of cross-listings; if a course is listed multiple ways, such as STS 50/Math 50, then you can list it as either one to help you meet this rule.)

If a student has 3 or more majors (not common and generally not a good idea), then only half of the courses in *any* of the majors can double-count towards *either* of the others. So for example here would be one way to do anthropology + sociology + STS:

- 5 anthro courses just for anthro major
- 5 sociology courses just for soc major
- 5 STS courses just for STS major
- 5 more courses towards the anthro major, of which 3 also count as soc and 2 as STS
- 2 more courses double-counting in soc and STS
- 1 more STS course to make 10

Overall this works because a total of 5/10 anthro courses, 5/10 soc, and 4/10 STS courses count multiply.

Minors

Two courses towards a minor can double-count, whether that's toward foundation requirements, distribution requirements, another minor, or a major.

STS has no further restrictions on double-counting, but some other departments and programs do; examples include Economics/Finance, History, and English.