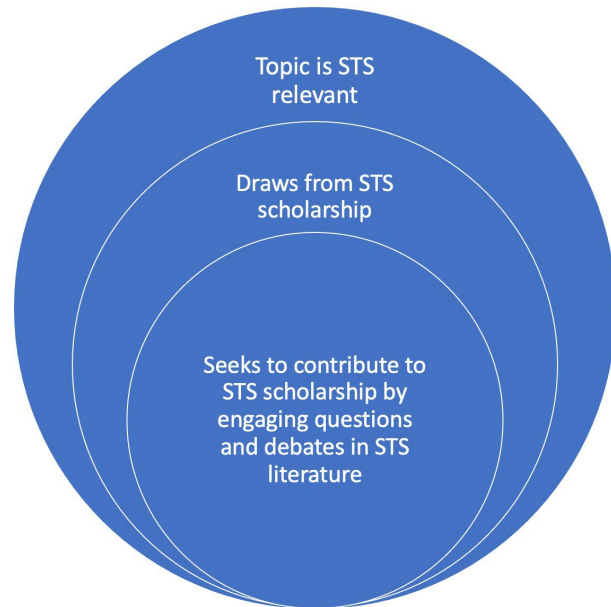


REVIEWING STUDENT APPLICANTS

Applicants are scored on three dimensions: STS Fit, Quality and Originality of Research, and Contribution to Diversity of Scholars/Scholarship in our Community

Regarding “STS Fit”: As an overall principle, we seek to use our relatively small pool of money to reward and support emerging scholars who draw from, participate in, and contribute to research and praxis in STS. These students often do work that, in its use of or commitment to STS ideas, pushes or transgresses the boundaries of their discipline, and may as a result be perceived as less fundable or central to the student’s department and disciplinary field.

There is no neat or simple definition of STS, but we do offer one on our website that can be used as a starting place: <https://sts.wisc.edu/about-us/science-technology-studies/>



The concentric circles diagram below shows roughly how we score projects within this category, with projects that are more central being higher priority.

RATING SYSTEM

(1) Degrees of STS Fit, as follows:

- Research on an STS-relevant topic that both draws from and seeks to contribute to STS scholarship by engaging questions and debates in the STS literature
- Research on an STS-relevant topic that draws from STS scholarship to inform questions in other fields
- Research on an STS-relevant topic that does not make any clear or explicit connection to STS scholarship
- category error... usually a science or technology graduate student who has not attempted to portray the STS relevance of their application

(2) Quality & Originality of research-- Various levels are as follows:

- research focuses on a topic of unusual social or theoretical importance, asks interesting questions, and uses methods appropriate to the questions (as far as we can tell)
- meets 2 of the above criteria 1
- meets 1 of the above criteria
- meets none of the above criteria

(3) Contributes to diversity of scholars & scholarship in our STS community – Various levels are as follows

- scholar/project that, through both positionality and their research focus, adds new depth and perspective to our STS community
- scholar/project that, through either positionality or research focus, adds new depth and perspective to our STS community
- neither...