

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 14, 2011

Dean Ana Mari Cauce College of Arts and Sciences Box 353765

Dear Ana Mari:

Based on the recommendation of its Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs, the Faculty Council on Academic Standards has recommended approval of the revised program requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and the new options in Applied Physics, Biophysics, Comprehensive Physics, and Teacher Preparation. A copy of the changes is attached.

I am writing to inform you that the Physics department is authorized to specify these requirements beginning autumn quarter 2010. 2011 (Per departmental request received 1/20/2011)

The new requirements should be incorporated in printed statements and in individual department websites as soon as possible. The *General Catalog* website will be updated accordingly by the Registrar's Office.

Sincerely yours,

Mylis

Phyllis M. Wise Interim President

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Marjorie Olmstead (with enclosure)
Mr. Robert Corbett (with enclosure)
Dr. Deborah H. Wiegand (with enclosure)
Ms. Virjean Edwards (with enclosure PHYS-20100210A-D)

CREATING AND ACADEMIC PRO	OGRAMS			PHYS - 20100210A -
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Contact Person: Prof. Marjorie Olmst	ead Phor	ne: 5-3031	Email: olmstd@uw.edu	Box: 351560
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PLEASE SEE ATTACHED. New material specific to Biophysics Option is repeated below:	
Biophysics Track (106 credits, min.)	a d a d)
0. Common core requirements above, except only one course from the math menu required (2 recomme 1. Mathematical Physics (4 credits): PHYS 228	nueu)
2. Quantum and Statistical Mechanics (7 credits): PHYS 324, 328	
3. Chemistry Principles (15 credits): CHEM 142, 152 and 162	
<ul><li>4. General Biology (10 credits): BIOL 180 and 200.</li><li>5. Biophysics (3 credits): PHYS 429</li></ul>	
6. Additional Chemistry and Biology: (6 credits, prin): Two courses from CHEM 223, 224, 428, 452, 453,	BIOL 220, 340, 350,
355, 401, 427, 467, or BIOC 405 or 440. 7. Undergraduate Research (3 credits): Biology-related research under PHYS 499, BIOC 499, BIOL 499.	, CHEM 499,
GENOME 499 MICROM 499, NBIO 499, PBIO 499, BIOEN 499.	
8. Recommended: At least two additional courses from Chem/Bio menu in (6), plus BIOC 406 and MICR	
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be signature of the chairbare Department/Unit: Biology	Chair/Program Director	Date 8/9/10
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# UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON CREATING AND CHANGING UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS



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College/Campus UW Seattle	Department/Unit Physics	Date 10 Feb 2010
New Programs		
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Leading to a <u>Applied Physics</u>	Option within the existing major i	n <u></u> .
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New or Revised Continuation Policy for Eliminate program in	to	
Proposed Effective Date: Quarter: Autumn	Winter Spring Summer Year: 20 10	
Contact Person: Prof. Marjorie Olmstead	Phone: 5-3031 Email: olmstd@uw.edu	Box: 351560
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plied-Physics Track (89 credits, min) Common core requirements above	
Introductory Experimental Physics (3 credits): PHYS 231	
Computer Programming (4 credits): AMATH 301 Additional Mathematics (3 credits, min): PHYS 228 or an additional course from MATH 307 o	
/IATH 352, MATH 309 or AMATH 353, MATH 324, MATH 326 and AMATH 401 not used to s	satisfy Core Requirement
Advanced Laboratory (6 credits, min): Two courses from PHYS 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 43 Undergraduate Research (3 credits): Three credits from PHYS 401-403, 485-487, or 491-49	4, and ASTRO 480 OR 481
1 may count as lab or research, but not both)	· · · · · ·
Electives (9 credits, min): Three additional courses from PHYS 323, 324, 325, 328, 329, app cture courses in physics or cognate subjects (same list as comprehensive requirement 4). Ma	proved list of upper-division
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0, EE 135, ESS 102, MÉ 123.	A
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# UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON CREATING AND CHANGING UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS



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College/Campus Arts & Scie	ences, UW Seattle	Department/Unit Physics	S	Date 10 Feb 2010
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2. 300-level courses in Physics (7 credits, min). 1110 cred PHVS 331, 335, 431, 432, 43	3, 434, and ASTRO 480 OR 481
3. Advanced Laboratory (3 credits); RHVS 401-2-3 working on a project that involves tead	ching.
4. Teaching Practicum (3 credits): 11110 401 2 3, PHYS 407, 408, 409. 5. Physics for High School Teachers (15 credits): PHYS 407, 408, 409.	
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CREATING AND CHANGING UNDERGRADUATE

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

College/Campus Arts & Scie	ences, UW Seattle	Depart	ment/Unit Physics	3	Date 10 Feb 2010
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LEASE SEE ATTACHED. New material specific to Comprehensive Physics Option is repeated below	w:
Comprehensive-Physics Track (93 credits, min)	
. Common core requirements above . Mathematical Physics (4 credits): PHYS 228	
. 300-level courses in Physics or Astronomy (13 credits, min): PHYS 324, plus at least 3 from PHYS 328, PHYS 329, ASTR 321, ASTR 322.	323, PHYS 325, PHYS
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. Undergraduate Research (3 credits): Three credits from PHYS 401-403, 485-487, or 491-496; ASTI 31 may count as lab or research, but not both)	R 481 or 499 (ASTRO
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# Current: Bachelor of Science

Suggested First- and Second-Year College Courses: MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126 (or MATH 144, MATH 145, MATH 146), MATH 308, MATH 324; PHYS 121, PHYS 122, PHYS 123, PHYS 224, PHYS 225, PHYS 227, PHYS 228. (Note: MATH 134, MATH 135, and MATH 136 can be used in place of MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126, and MATH 308.)

These physics and mathematics courses are required prerequisites for junior-level work in physics, not only at the UW, but also at most colleges and universities in the United States. Students who do not complete them during the first two years in college will either need to take more than four years to earn a degree or will be limited to a minimal course of study for graduation in four years.

# **Department Admission Requirements**

Students in good academic standing may declare the major at any time by visiting the department advising office to complete the necessary paperwork.

# Major Requirements

Minimum 86-87 credits, including the following:

- 1. *Core courses (<del>38</del> credits):* PHYS 121, PHYS 122, PHYS 123, PHYS 224, PHYS 225, PHYS 227, PHYS 228, PHYS 321, PHYS 322, PHYS 334.
- 2. Upper-division lecture course in modern physics (3-4 credits): Either PHYS 315 or PHYS 324.
- 3. *Upper-division physics laboratory courses (6 credits):* Two courses from PHYS 331, PHYS 335, PHYS 431, PHYS 432, PHYS 433, or PHYS 434.
- 4. *Research and seminars (3 credits):* Choices include PHYS 401, PHYS 402, PHYS 403; or PHYS 485, PHYS 486, PHYS 487; or PHYS 491, PHYS 492, PHYS 493; or PHYS 494, PHYS 495, PHYS 496; or ASTR 480. 1-3 credits of independent research that has significant physics content in a cognate subject (astronomy, chemistry, etc.) may be substituted for 1-3 credits of the above choices with approval of the adviser.
- 5. *Upper-division lecture courses*: Two courses from an approved list of upper-division lecture courses in physics or cognate subjects.
- 6. *Mathematics (21 credits):* MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126, MATH 324, and one from MATH 308, MATH 318, or AMATH 352.
- 7. *Related sciences (9 credits):* Selected from physical or biological sciences (other *than physics, mathematics, or computer science*) or from the history or philosophy of science, in addition to any courses in these fields taken to satisfy requirement 5, above.
- 8. At least 12 credits of the physics courses presented to satisfy requirements 1 through 5, above, shall be in physics courses numbered 300 or above taken at the UW.
- 9. A minimum grade of 2.0 is required in all courses presented in fulfillment of requirements 1 through 5, above.
- Students who plan graduate study in physics are strongly advised to complete PHYS 323, PHYS 324, PHYS 325, PHYS 328, as well as several of the following: PHYS 231, PHYS 232, PHYS 331, PHYS 421, PHYS 422, PHYS 423, PHYS 424, PHYS 425, PHYS 426, PHYS 431, PHYS 432, PHYS 433, and AMATH 401, AMATH 402, AMATH 403.

# **Proposed Major Requirements**

Minimum 89-106 credits, including the following:

- 1. *Physics Core courses (40 credits):* PHYS 121, PHYS 122, PHYS 123, PHYS 224, PHYS 225, PHYS 226, PHYS 227, PHYS 294, PHYS 321, PHYS 322, PHYS 334.
- 2. Mathematics Core courses (18-19 credits from one of the following options):
  - a. MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126, and
    - one course from
      - MATH 307/AMATH 351, MATH 308/AMATH 352,
      - MATH 309/AMATH 353,
      - MATH 324, MATH 326, or AMATH 401;
  - b. MATH 134, MATH 135, MATH 136, and
    - one course from MATH 309/AMATH 353, MATH 324, MATH 326, or AMATH 401.

#### 3. <u>Students must complete one of the four options shown below: 31-48 credits</u> a. Comprehensive Physics Option (35-38 credits):

- 1. 17 credits from: PHYS 228; PHYS 324; minimum of three courses from PHYS 323, PHYS 325, PHYS 328, PHYS 329, ASTR 321, OR ASTR 322.
- 2. One additional math course from the core list (3-4 credits) MATH 307/AMATH 351,
  - MATH 308/AMATH 352,
  - MATH 309/AMATH 353,
  - MATH 324, MATH 326, or AMATH 401.
- 3. Advanced Laboratory (6-8 credits): Two courses from PHYS 331, PHYS 335, PHYS 431, PHYS 432, PHYS 433, PHYS 434, and **either** ASTR 480 or ASTR 481.
- 4. Upper Division Lecture electives (6 credits): See advisor for approved list of electives.
- 5. Undergraduate Research: 3 credits from any combination of PHYS 485, PHYS 486, PHYS 487, PHYS 494, PHYS 495, PHYS 496, PHYS 499, ASTR 481 or ASTR 499. (ASTR 481 may count as lab or research).

### b. Applied Physics Option (31-35 credits):

- 1. PHYS 231 and AMATH 301 (7 credits)
- 2. (6-8 credits) Two additional mathematical courses from PHYS 228,
  - MATH 307/AMATH 351, MATH 308/AMATH 352, MATH 309/AMATH 353,

MATH 324, MATH 326, or AMATH 401.

- 3. Advanced Laboratory (6-8 credits): Two courses from PHYS 331, PHYS 335, PHYS 431, PHYS 432, PHYS 433, PHYS 434, and either ASTR 480 or ASTR 481.
- 4. Electives (9 credits): See advisor for approved list of electives.
- 5. Undergraduate Research: 3 credits from any combination of PHYS 485, PHYS 486, PHYS 487, PHYS 494, PHYS 495, PHYS 496, PHYS 499, ASTR 481 or ASTR 499. (ASTR 481 may count as lab or research).

### c. Biophysics Option (48-52 credits):

- 1. PHYS 228, PHYS 324, PHYS 328, PHYS 429 (14 credits).
- 2. Chemistry (15 credits): CHEM 142/144/145, CHEM 152/154/155, and CHEM 162/164/165.

- 3. Biology (10 credits): BIOL 180 and BIOL 200.
- Additional Chemistry and Biology (6-10 credits): Two courses from CHEM 223 or 237, CHEM 224 or 238, CHEM 428, CHEM 452 or 456, CHEM 453 or 457, BIOL 220, BIOL 340, BIOL 350, BIOL 355, BIOL 401, BIOL 427, BIOL 467, BIOC 405, or BIOC 440.
- 5. Undergraduate Research: 3 credits from any combination of PHYS 499, BIOC 499, BIOL 499, CHEM 499, GENOME 499, MICROM 499, NBIO 499, PBIO 499, OR BIOEN 499.

# d. Teacher Preparation Option (35-38 credits):

- 1. 11 credits from: PHYS 228; PHYS 324; one course from PHYS 323, PHYS 328, or PHYS 329.
- 2. Physics by Inquiry (15 credits): PHYS 407, PHYS 408, and PHYS 409.
- 3. One additional math course from the core list (3-4 credits):
  - MATH 307/AMATH 351, MATH 308/AMATH 352, MATH 309/AMATH 353,

MATH 324, MATH 326, or AMATH 401.

- 4. Advanced Laboratory (3-5 credits): One course from PHYS 331, PHYS 335, PHYS 431, PHYS 432, PHYS 433, PHYS 434, and either ASTR 480 or ASTR 481.
- 5. Teaching Practicum (3 credits): PHYS 499, working on a project that involves teaching.
- At least 12 credits of the physics courses presented to satisfy requirements 1 through 3, above, shall be in physics courses numbered 300 or above taken at the UW.
- 5. A minimum grade of 2.0 is required in all courses applied to the major.
- 6. Students who plan graduate study in physics are strongly advised to pursue the comprehensive option as well as several of the following: PHYS 231, PHYS 232, PHYS 331, PHYS 421, PHYS 422, PHYS 423, PHYS 431, PHYS 432, PHYS 433, and AMATH 401, AMATH 402, AMATH 403. Students who plan to pursue graduate biophysics or medical physics should take the biophysics option, plus at least one additional upper division math class and additional chemistry or biology classes from the list in 3.c.4.

### OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO PHYSICS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE PROGRAM EFFECTIVE AUTUMN 2010 APPROVED BY PHYSICS DEPARTMENT FACULTY AUTUMN 2009

The department of physics proposes to change from a single "one major fits most" to four separate tracks, or options, depending on a student's career goals. Roughly 2/3 of the credits (61 credits) will form a common core, with the remainder focused towards a particular degree track. The new tracks are:

- **Comprehensive Physics Option**: aimed at students planning to pursue graduate education in physics, astronomy or a related field.
- Applied Physics Option: aimed at students planning to pursue technical employment with their bachelor of science degree
- **Teaching Preparation Option**: aimed at students desiring a thorough grounding in physics before pursuing graduate education for a secondary teaching credential in physical science.
- **Biophysics Option**: aimed at students wishing to pursue medical school, graduate school in medical physics or biophysics, or an MD/PhD program.

The physics department at UW regularly ranks in the top three in the nation in terms of the number of BS degrees awarded per year (Harvard and Berkeley are the other two), graduating about 60 majors each year. Our large undergraduate major community encompasses students with varied interests and career goals, and our curriculum and major requirements require revision to serve the diverse needs of our major community. To accomplish this within a reasonable number of credits we are removing some requirements from the existing degree program and replacing them with four sets of new requirements more tailored to students' specific career goals. In addition, incremental modifications to department course offerings over the past few years have resulted in the removal of some courses that used to provide a less mathematically intensive path to a degree and the creation of new courses that need a home in the major requirements. The new options will also improve the department's ability to advise students, since faculty advisors with particular knowledge of these areas can interact with students starting from when they declare the physics major.

With the current major requirements, students frequently end up with a mix of classes that does not adequately prepare them for their career choices with enough depth on any particular area. The new structure will ensure that they have sufficient depth in at least one area. For example, those aiming for graduate school are required to take the 300-level classes expected by the major graduate programs, while those aiming at a technical BS-level employment are required to take computer programming and additional laboratories. Students can also see from the requirements for other options what other courses they should take to broaden their preparation should they wish to preserve career flexibility.

Based on current interest, we anticipate that initially roughly 30-50% of our majors will choose each of the comprehensive and applied options; the other two options will start small, but the department expects they will form the basis for attracting new students to the physics major. The teaching preparation and biophysics tracks are designed to meet needs in which many current majors have expressed interest, but for which there is no current program.

Below, we first address the common core, and then the options.

# **COMMON CORE REQUIREMENTS**

		Proposed Corest and (61 cr)	
Phys	121, 122, 123 224, 225 227, 228 321, 322 334	121, 122,123 224, 225, 226, 294 227 321, 322 334	
Math	124, 125, 126 308, 324	124, 125, 126 Choose 2 from {Math 307, 308, 309, AMath 351, 352, 353	后:"我们,我们希腊·伊莱尔生物是否,只能是有一个

TABLE 1: CURRENT AND PROPOSED CORE REQUIREMENTS

Changes to core (in *red*): Two new 2<sup>nd</sup>-year classes developed over the past few years, PHYS 226 and PHYS 294, have been added to the core. PHYS 228, Mathematical Physics II, is removed from the core, but will still be taken by most of our majors. The upper-division math requirements are broadened to increase flexibility.

- PHYS 226, Particles and Symmetries, forms a bridge between introductory modern physics (PHYS 225), and junior-level quantum mechanics (PHYS 324) with an emphasis on modern particle physics. The syllabus to PHYS 225 has been modified to include some of what used to be covered in PHYS 315 (no longer offered) and to complement PHYS 226. The two courses PHYS 225, 226 are now designed to provide a strong introduction to modern physics, greatly increasing the lower-division exposure of our students to physics discovered within the lifetime of our faculty. The initial introduction of this revision has gone well, and this change to core requirements reflects a desire to codify this in the major.
- PHYS 294 is a new one-credit seminar introducing students to physics research on campus. It both serves as an overview of current topics in physics and as an introduction to potential research opportunities. It is added to increase physics majors' awareness of active research in their field. Currently optional, a large fraction of majors (and a number of non-majors) are taking this class, and it has been well received. Again, it is time to codify this into the major.
- PHYS 228, Mathematical Physics II is traditionally a major gate-keeper class for the physics major. In the new curriculum, PHYS 228 will only be required for 3 of the 4 new options, but may be replaced by an additional course from a 300-level math menu in the applied physics track. This change relieves pressure on students who may learn math better from the math department than in a physics class, and allows the department to increase the focus in PHYS 228 on preparing students for the mathematical rigorous PHYS 324.

The other change in the core requirements is to broaden the choice for the upper-division math requirements. In this way, students may choose in which areas of math they would like more depth based on the overview of these topics presented in PHYS 227 and PHYS 228.

#### **GENERAL CHANGES**

Since PHYS 315 is no longer offered, an alternative was required for students who used to take this more phenomenological (and less mathematical) approach to modern quantum mechanics. Thus PHYS 324 is an elective for students in the applied track, as well as its pre-requisite mathematical physics class PHYS 228.

The current major requires 9 credits of (non-physics or astronomy) introductory science or history of science, which most students fulfill with chemistry, earth and space sciences, or biology. While we still strongly encourage students to broaden their education through introductory science, the department believes it is more important to add the new physics classes at the sophomore level (226, 294), and to restore the number of classes required at the 300 level to the level before the last restructuring of major requirements to account for the increase in credits from 3 to 4 in the core upper-division classes PHYS 227, 228, 321, 322, 324. Within the applied track, one elective may still be an introductory science or engineering class (options are modified somewhat from current requirement), and an additional class in computer programming is now required (AMATH 301), as well as a sophomore-level laboratory (PHYS 231). The other options add one or more requirements at the 300 or 400 level (see chart).

Upper division electives are revised to increase the number that must be classroom-based (as opposed to laboratory), and to require some specific electives for specific tracks: PHYS 429 for biophysics track; PHYS 407-8-9 for the teaching preparation track. Students currently must petition to replace one physics advanced laboratory with one of the advanced laboratories in astronomy (ASTR 480, 481); these classes are now explicitly allowed to meet major requirements. The upper division laboratory requirements are reduced for the teaching track (from 2 to 1) to allow time for the hands-on, laboratory based 407-8-9 sequence, and for the biophysics track (from 2 to 0) to allow time for biology and chemistry laboratories.

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Details and motivation for the individual options are listed separately.

### **CONCOMITANT PRE-REQUISITE CHANGES**

These changes will require a few changes in prerequisites. Currently, MATH 308 is a pre/corequisite for PHYS 227, and PHYS 228 is a pre/co-requisite for PHYS 321. We propose to change the pre-requisite for PHYS 227 to be any of the 300-level math classes, and to require only PHYS 227 for PHYS 321 and 322, while both PHYS 227 and 228 will be required for PHYS 324. Our experience with students who have obtained waivers from these pre-requisites in the past informs us that this will not cause significant problems for our students.

#### OPTIONS FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICS

The major will be restructured into four options: i) Comprehensive Physics, aimed at students planning graduate study in physics or astronomy; ii) Applied Physics, aimed at students planning a technical career at the bachelor's level; iii) Teaching Preparation, aimed at students planning a career in secondary education; iv) Biophysics, aimed at students interested in a career in biological or medical physics; it is also an excellent preparation for medical school or an MD/PhD program. The generic degree encompassed by our current major program will be eliminated.

		Comprehensives ((S2c))			Efforthy des Gestrant
Math	228	228	AMATH 301 228 OR +1 from core math menu	228	228 d
32x	324 (or 315)	324 3 of 323, 325, 328, 329, A321, A322	(324 meets elective option below)	324 1. of 323,328,329	324 328
Adv Lab	2 of 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 434	2'of 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 434, (A480 or A481)	231 2 of 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 434, (A480 or A481)	1 of 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 434, (A480 or A481).	A mental and conserved to the second
UG Res	3 cr research or seminar	3 cr research or seminar	3 cr research or seminar	3 cr teaching	3 cr in bio-related research
Elective	2 additional Phys/Cognate Subjects, incl. Lab	2 additional Phys/Cognate Class (not lab)	3 additional of 32x, Phys/Cognate (may include 1 lab; 1 intro sci)	all three of 407, 408, 409	<b>429</b>
Other Sci	9 credits intro science or history of science		(selected intro science/ engineering in electives)		5 chem 3 bio 1 biochem

### SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN NON-CORE PHYSICS MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

\*Listed in catalog as meeting modern physics requirement, but no longer offered after the creation of PHYS 226 and restructuring of the PHYS 225 syllabus.

#### Addendum to Form 1503 Biophysics Option in a Bachelor of Science in Physics

## **Biophysics Track** (106 credits, min.)

- 0. Common core requirements, except only require 1 course from math menu; recommend 2 (58 credits)
- 1. Mathematical Physics (4 credits): PHYS 228
- 2. Quantum and Statistical Mechanics (7 credits): PHYS 324, 328
- 3. Chemistry Principles (15 credits): CHEM 142, 152 and 162.
- 4. General Biology (10 credits): BIOL 180 and 200.
- 5. Biophysics (3 credits): PHYS 429
- 6. Additional Chemistry and Biology (6 credits, min): Two courses from CHEM 223, 224, 428, 452, 453, BIOC 405 or 440, and BIOL 220, 340, 350, 355, 401, 429.
- 7. Undergraduate Research (3 credits): Biology-related research in PHYS 401-403, BIOC 499, BIOL 499, CHEM 499, GENOME 499, MICROM 499, NBIO 499, PBIO 499, BIOEN 499.
- 8. Recommended: At least 2 additional courses from Chemistry/Biology menu in (6), BIOC 406 and MICROM 301

The *Biophysics Option* is aimed at the growing population working at the interface between physics and biology or medicine. It combines courses in physics, chemistry, biology and biochemistry to give students a thorough grounding in this interdisciplinary field. At the current time, physics offers only one course in biophysics (PHYS 429), which is required for the *Biophysics Option*; it is hoped that as the population in this option builds over time, additional courses will be added to serve this population. Quantum and statistical mechanics (PHYS 324 and 328) are key elements of biological physics, and are thus specifically required (as opposed to a choice of 32x classes as in other options).

This option requires one year each of introductory chemistry and biology (the third quarter biology may be at a higher level), plus two additional quarters of organic, analytical or physical chemistry and a one-quarter introduction to biochemistry and molecular biology. The requirements for this option were developed in consultation with advisors in pre-Health Sciences, and are appropriate for students aimed at either medical school or a graduate program in biophysics, bioengineering, or medical physics.

The *Biophysics Option* requires a large number of credit hours (106 credits), and recommends several more. This is because this interdisciplinary area requires students be well-grounded in physics, chemistry and biology, while having a physics degree requires students take some upper-division physics classes. The load is similar to the biochemistry BS degree, which also requires introductory physics, biology and chemistry, adding upper division chemistry, genome sciences and biochemistry for a total of 107 credits. The *Biophysics Option* requires considerably fewer credits than a Bioengineering BS degree, which leaves very few credit hours unscripted: it requires 25 credits of math, 47 credits of introductory physics, chemistry, biology and biochemistry, plus 58 credits of advanced bioengineering (130 credits total).

The *Biophysics Option* will likely start as a small fraction of undergraduate physics majors, but given the expected growth of biophysics and medical physics in general, and interest we have heard our students express, the department anticipates this program will serve as an important source of new majors. UW has a very strong department of physiology and biophysics at the medical school, offering excellent UG research opportunities, but it does not offer an undergraduate degree.

# Addendum to Form 1503 Applied Physics Option in a Bachelor of Science in Physics

# Applied-Physics Track (89 credits, min)

- 0. Common core requirements (61 credits)
- 1. Introductory Experimental Physics (3 credits): PHYS 231
- 2. Computer Programming (4 credits): AMATH 301
- 3. Additional Mathematics (3 credits, min): PHYS 228 or an additional course from MATH 307 or AMATH 351, MATH 308 or AMATH 352, MATH 309 or AMATH 353, MATH 324, MATH 326 and AMATH 401 not used to satisfy Core Requirement
- 4. Advanced Laboratory (6 credits, min): Two courses from PHYS 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 434, and ASTRO 480 OR 481
- 5. Undergraduate Research (3 credits): Three credits from PHYS 401-403, 485-487, or 491-496; ASTR 481 or 499 (ASTRO 481 may count as lab or research, but not both)
- 6. Electives (9 credits, min): Three additional courses from
  - PHYS 323, 324, 325, 328, 329
  - the approved list of upper-division lecture courses in physics or cognate subjects
  - Up to one additional course from PHYS 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 434, and ASTRO 480 OR 481.
  - One at most from: AA 101, ASTRO 115, ATM S 211, CEE 220, CHEM E 220, EE 135, ESS 102, ME 123.

The *Applied-Physics Option* is aimed at students who will pursue technical employment in physics or engineering at the bachelor of science level. It is also appropriate for students pursuing physics as a liberal arts degree, as a background for law or journalism, or as a double major with engineering. This option will restore a path to a physics degree for students who are more interested in a phenomenological approach than a mathematical one; an option that was eliminated when PHYS 315 was removed from departmental offerings and PHYS 324 became *de facto* required. The creation of PHYS 226, and its incorporation into the core curriculum, means students will still see two full quarters of modern physics (PHYS 225 and 226). The increased emphasis on laboratory and the new computer programming requirement in this option gives students key skills expected by employers of physics bachelors.

Another significant issue for students aimed at a BS-level career is that only a subset of our faculty involved in advising undergraduates are intimately familiar with these options. Through declaring the *Applied Physics Option*, students will be steered to that subset for advising. With these students identified early in their undergraduate tenure, the department will have a better idea of the number of students who might benefit from industrial internship opportunities and contacts with alumni, increasing the ability to recruit such contacts that will aid these students in finding employment upon graduation.

The new *Applied Physics Option* adds two new required classes unique to this option: PHYS 231 and AMATH 301. PHYS 231 is a sophomore level lab designed to accompany the modern physics curriculum and to teach experimental methods and error analysis. It is currently part of the minor program in physics, but does not count specifically towards the current physics degree. Inclusion of this class in the *Applied Physics Option* gives this course a necessary home in the major curriculum, as well as giving students a thorough grounding in experimental measurement so that they may pursue the 300-and 400-level laboratories in more depth. AMATH 301, Beginning Scientific Computing, covers an essential expected skill for anyone seeking technical employment.

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The *Applied Physics Option* electives offer students broad choice in tailoring their education. For example, a future scientific journalist may want to take an introduction to nanotechnology (CHEME 220), while a future electronics technician may want to take Application of Computers to Physical Measurement (PHYS 434) or an advanced electrical engineering class. The *Applied Physics Option* also allows students to substitute a third 300-level math or applied math class for PHYS 228, and to take other upper-division classes instead of PHYS 324. For example, students may find the core astronomy classes (ASTR 321,322, 323) or the third quarter of electromagnetism (PHYS 323) to be of more interest. By removing students from PHYS 228 and 324 who are not strongly interested in this mathematically-focused approach to physics (but still interested in physics), it is anticipated that these classes may be taught in such as way as to be more useful to the rest of the class.

#### Addendum to Form 1503 N Teaching Preparation Option in a Bachelor of Science in Physics

el Teaching Preparation Track (93 credits, min.)

- 0. Common core requirements (61 credits)
- 1. Mathematical Physics (4 credits): PHYS 228
- 2. 300-level courses in Physics (7 credits, min): PHYS 324, plus at least 1 course from PHYS 323, PHYS 328, PHYS 329.
- 3. Advanced Laboratory (3 credits, min): One course from PHYS 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 434, and ASTRO 480 OR 481 (1) μHYS 403 (1) μHYS 403 (1)
- 4. Teaching Practicum (3 credits): PHYS 401-2-9, working on a project that involves teaching.
- 5. Physics for High School Teachers (15 credits): PHYS 407, 408, 409.

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The **Teaching Preparation Option** is aimed at students who will pursue a career in secondary school science teaching, and who wish a thorough grounding in physics. To obtain a teaching credential, students need to pursue a masters program in the College of Education after completing this degree. This option starts from the Comprehensive Physics Option, but replaces five 3-credit classes (two 32x classes, one advanced lab, two upper division electives) with our series of three 5-credit classes aimed at teaching students how to present complex ideas in physics at the secondary school level (PHYS 407-8-9).

The teaching preparation sequence, PHYS 407 – 408 – 409, uses curriculum developed by UW physics faculty based on their research on how students learn physics. This track takes advantage of the national resource of our Physics Education Research group, and highlights an important avenue for a career using a physics bachelor of science degree. Students who choose the *Teaching Preparation Option* when declaring a physics major may be advised by members of this group's extensive ties to take advantage of the PER group's extensive ties to local secondary science programs through their courses for in-service teachers for further mentoring and internship opportunities.

The **Teaching Preparation Option** eliminates a problem with the current major, whereby students did not have room in their schedules to take the entire 3-guarter sequence PHYS 407-408-409. The new requirements acknowledge the strong laboratory component of the physicsby-inquiry curriculum, and reduce the number of required advanced laboratories from 2 to 1. Also, by indentifying a specific Teaching Preparation Option, we anticipate that more students will recognize teaching as an important option for their career choice. Through advising, we will encourage them to take other courses that will enhance their background for secondary science teaching (such as introductory biology, chemistry and/or earth and space sciences), but these are not required for the degree to enhance flexibility for our students.

#### Addendum to Form 1503 Comprehensive Physics Option in a Bachelor of Science in Physics

### Comprehensive-Physics Track (93 credits, min)

- 0. Common core requirements (61 credits)
- 1. Mathematical Physics (4 credits): PHYS 228
- 2. 300-level courses in Physics or Astronomy (13 credits, min): PHYS 324, plus at least 3 from PHYS 323, PHYS 325, PHYS 328, PHYS 329, ASTR 321, ASTR 322.
- 3. Advanced Laboratory (6 credits, min): Two courses from PHYS 331, 335, 431, 432, 433, 434, and ASTRO 480 OR 481.
- 4. Upper-division lecture courses (6 credits, min): Two courses from an approved list of upperdivision lecture courses in physics or cognate subjects.
- 5. Undergraduate Research (3 credits): Three credits from PHYS 401-403, 485-487, or 491-496; ASTR 481 or 499 (ASTRO 481 may count as lab or research, but not both)

The *Comprehensive-Physics Option* is aimed at students who will pursue graduate education in physics, astronomy, or a related field, although it is appropriate for any student wishing a thorough preparation for a career where physics knowledge plays a central role. This option will alleviate problems experienced in the past with students who complete the minimum current requirements for the physics major, but then find they are not prepared for graduate school because they have not taken sufficient upper-division classes.

Another significant issue for graduate school bound students is that they frequently do not seek or receive appropriate advising early enough in their undergraduate career to lay the groundwork for successful application to graduate school. By declaring a *Comprehensive-Physics Option*, students will be steered toward advisors familiar with current graduate school admissions and opportunities for research at the time they declare a major, as opposed to their final year when it is too late to modify their academic program.

#### The current catalog listing states:

Students who plan graduate study in physics are strongly advised to complete PHYS 323, PHYS 324, PHYS 325, PHYS 328, as well as several of the following: PHYS 231, PHYS 232, PHYS 331, PHYS 421, PHYS 422, PHYS 422, PHYS 424, PHYS 425, PHYS 426, PHYS 431, PHYS 432, PHYS 433, and AMATH 401, AMATH 402, AMATH 403.

The new *Comprehensive-Physics Option* requires students to take PHYS 324 plus at least three additional 300-level classes. Students aimed at physics graduate school should take at least 3 of the four classes Physics 323, 325, 328, and the recently created Physics 329; those aiming at astronomy or astrophysics graduate programs may replace up to two of these with the astronomy courses ASTR 321 and 322. An option to separate an astronomy/physics double major track was considered, but the department decided the differences between the two tracks were small enough to merge the two into a single option, and to retain flexibility for other double majors. For example, while students aimed at physics graduate school should fulfull the upper division elective requirements with 400-level physics, we maintain the option to take these upper division courses in either physics or cognate subjects (such as astronomy or earth and space sciences). Choices will be discussed in advising documents that will accompany the new option. The list of qualifying upper division electives remains the same as the current list, with the exception that within the current major, advanced laboratories included options; the new comprehensive option requires that students take additional classroom-based courses to enhance their preparation for graduate classwork.

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Seattle: New Options in Applied Physics, Biophysics, Comprehensive Physics, and Teaching Physics within the Bachelor of Science degree in Physics (PHYS-20100210A/B/C/D)

Tri-Campus Review Comments:

<u>NA</u>

# UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM REVIEW PROCEDURES\*\* CHECKLIST

Title of Proposal: Options in Biophysics, Applied Physics, Teacher Preparation, and

Comprehensive Physics within the Bachelor of Science degree in

Physics (PHYS-20100210A-D).

Proposed by (unit name): Physics

**Originating Campus:** 

<u>X</u>UW, Seattle

\_\_\_UW, Bothell

\_\_\_UW, Tacoma

- I. Phase I. Developed Proposal Review (to be completed by Originating Campus' Academic Program Review body)
  - A. Review Completed by: (list name of program review body)

Chaired by:

10/08/10 Date proposal received by originating campus's review body

10/22/10 Date proposal sent to University Registrar

10/26/10 Date proposal posted & email sent to standard notification list

12/10/10 Date of originating campus's curriculum body approval (Note: this date must be 15 business days or more following date of posting)

B. <u>0</u> Number of comments received. Attach the comments and a summary of the

consideration and responses thereof : (1-2 paragraphs)

#### II. Phase II. Final Proposal Review (to be completed by FCTCP)

A. Review Completed by:
\_x\_\_ FCTCP subcommittee
\_\_\_ FCTCP full council
Sub-committee chaired by: Janet Primomo

12/16/10 Date request for review received from University Registrar 1/13/11 Date of FCTCP report

B. Review (attached)

YES NO

\_x\_\_ Was notice of proposal posted on UW Website for 15 business days?

\_x\_\_ Was notice of proposal sent to standard mailing list 15 business days in advance of academic program review?

\_\_\_\_ x Were comments received by academic program review body?

\_\_\_\_<u>n/a</u> Was response to comments appropriate? (explain, if necessary)

<u>**x**</u> Was final proposal reviewed by FCTCP within 14 days of receipt?

\_x\_\_\_ Was there adherence to the University Campuses Undergraduate Program Review Process? (explain, if necessary)

\*Because of the quarter break, the final proposal was not reviewed by FCTCP within 14 days of receipt. The FCTCP sub-committee reviewed it as soon as possible.

C. Recommendation

\_\_\_x\_ Forward for final approval

\_\_\_\_ Forward to Provost because of University issues (Explain)

\_\_\_\_ Return to campus council because of insufficient review (Explain).

\*\*Endorsed by Faculty Senate Executive Committee, 1/10/05, modified 1/31/06; These procedures apply to new undergraduate degrees, majors, minors (and certificates) and substantive changes to same