



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

**CREATING AND CHANGING UNDERGRADUATE
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

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Control #

PHYS-2400210 B

After college/school/campus review, send a signed original and 8 copies to the Curriculum Office/FCAS, Box 355850.

For information about when and how to use this form: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwcr/1503instructions.pdf>**College/Campus** UW Seattle**Department/Unit** Physics**Date** 10 Feb 2010**New Programs**

- ☐ Leading to a Bachelor of _____ in _____ degree.
- ☐ Leading to a Bachelor of _____ degree with a major in _____.
- ☒ Leading to a Applied Physics Option within the existing major in Physics.
- ☐ Leading to a minor in _____.

Changes to Existing Programs

- ☐ New Admission Requirements for the Major in _____ within the Bachelor of _____.
- ☐ Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in _____ within the Bachelor of _____.
- ☒ Revised Program Requirements for the Major in Physics within the Bachelor of Science.
- ☐ Revised Requirements for the Option in _____ within the major in _____.
- ☐ Revised Requirements for the Minor in _____.

Other Changes

- ☐ Change name of program from _____ to _____.
- ☐ New or Revised Continuation Policy for _____.
- ☐ Eliminate program in _____.

Proposed Effective Date: **Quarter:** ☒ Autumn ☐ Winter ☐ Spring ☐ Summer **Year: 20 10**

Contact Person: Prof. Marjorie Olmstead

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Box: 351560

EXPLANATION OF AND RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE

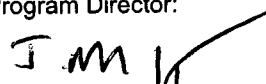
For new program, please include any relevant supporting documentation such as student learning outcomes, projected enrollments, letters of support and departmental handouts. (Use additional pages if necessary).

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 we propose to modify our current general physics degree requirements to create four distinct options to meet 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. The four new options are: Comprehensive Physics, Applied Physics, Teaching Preparation and Biophysics. Each is detailed on a separate form 1503.

SEE ATTACHED for ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, including both general information on the new degree programs and specific information on the Applied Physics Option.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED

List all departments/units/ or co-accredited programs affected by your new program or changes to your existing program and acquire the signature of the chair/director of each department/unit listed. Attach additional page(s) if necessary. *See online instructions.

Department/Unit: Physics	Chair/Program Director:  R. Hecl	Date: 3/3/10
Department/Unit: Applied Math	Chair/Program Director: Nathan Kutz x	Date: x

CATALOG COPY

Catalog Copy as currently written. Include only sections/paragraphs that would be changed if your request is approved. Please cross out or otherwise highlight any deletions.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

PROPOSED CATALOG COPY

Reflecting requested changes (Include exact wording as you wish it to be shown in the printed catalog. Please underline or otherwise highlight any additions. If needed, attach a separate, expanded version of the changes that might appear in department publications).
Please note: all copy will be edited to reflect uniform style in the General Catalog.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED. New material specific to Applied Physics Option is repeated below:

Applied-Physics Track (89 credits, min)

0. Common core requirements above

1. Introductory Experimental Physics (3 credits): PHYS 231

2. Computer Programming (4 credits): AMATH 301

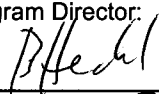
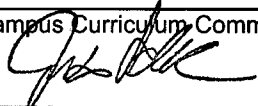
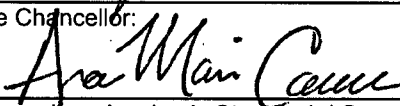
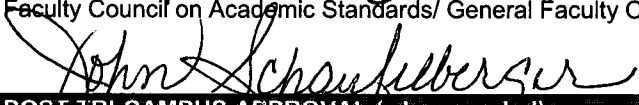

3. Additional Mathematics (3 credits, min): PHYS 228 or an additional course from MATH 307 or AMATH 351, MATH 308 or AMATH 352, MATH 309 or AMATH 353, MATH 324, MATH 326 and AMATH 401 not used to satisfy Core Requirement

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, approved list of upper-division lecture courses in physics or cognate subjects (same list as comprehensive requirement 4). May include one laboratory from above list and/or one class from the engineering/science applications list: AA 101, ASTRO 115, ATM S 211, CEE 20, CHEM E 220, EE 135, ESS 102, ME 123.

APPROVALS

Chair/Program Director: 	Date: 2/23/10
College/School/Campus Curriculum Committee: 	Date: 10/11/10
Dean/Vice Chancellor: 	Date: 10/11/10
Faculty Council on Academic Standards/ General Faculty Organization/Faculty Assembly Chair: 	Date: OCT. 22, 2010
POST TRI-CAMPUS APPROVAL (when needed)	
Faculty Council on Academic Standards/ General Faculty Organization/Faculty Assembly Chair: 	Date:

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.

Check for
Add Credits to Astro

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 a way as to be more useful to the rest of the class.

**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

TABLE 1: CURRENT AND PROPOSED CORE REQUIREMENTS

	Current Core (61 cr)	Proposed Core (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, 324, 326; AMath 351, 352, 353, 401}

Changes to core (in red): Two new 2nd-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.

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/co-requisite 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.

Link to
Astro
Changes
already
approved

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.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN NON-CORE PHYSICS MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

	Current (+29/28 cr)	Comprehensive (+32 cr)	Applied (+29/28 cr)	Teaching (+32 cr)	Biophysics (+54 cr)
Math	228	228	AMATH 301 228 OR +1 from core math menu	228	228
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)	none
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	429
Other Sci	9 credits intro science or history of science		(selected intro science/ engineering in electives)		5 chem 3 bio 1 biochem

*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.

Proposed Catalog Entry for Physics

Additions to current catalog highlighted in Yellow.

Physics

C121 Physics-Astronomy

www.phys.washington.edu

Physics is the study of the fundamental structure of matter and the interaction of its constituents, with the goal of providing a quantitative description of nature based on a limited number of physical principles.

Undergraduate Program

Adviser

C139A Physics-Astronomy, Box 351560

206-543-2772

The Department of Physics offers the following programs of study:

* The Bachelor of Science degree with a major in physics in any one of the following four options:

- Comprehensive Physics Track
- Applied Physics Track
- Teaching Preparation Track
- Biophysics Track

* A minor in physics

Bachelor of Science

Suggested First- and Second-Year College Courses: MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126 (or MATH 144, MATH 145, MATH 146), two or more courses from MATH 307, MATH 308, MATH 309, MATH 324, MATH 326 or AMATH 401; PHYS 121, PHYS 122, PHYS 123, PHYS 224, PHYS 225, PHYS 226, PHYS 227, PHYS 294. PHYS 228 is required for three of the four options, and recommended for the fourth; PHYS 231 is required for the applied option. (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

Common Core for All Degree Options (61 credits)

1. *Core Physics 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 (21 credits):* MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126, and two from MATH 307 or AMATH 351, MATH 308 or AMATH 352, MATH 309 or AMATH 353, MATH 324, MATH 326 and AMATH 401,
3. At least 12 credits of the courses presented to satisfy requirements for the degree (not including undergraduate research credits) shall be in physics courses numbered 300 or above taken at the UW.
4. A minimum grade of 2.0 is required in all non-math courses presented in fulfillment of degree requirements.

Proposed Catalog Entry for Physics

Students may select any one of the following degree options:

Comprehensive-Physics Track (93 credits, min)

0. Common core requirements above
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 upper-division 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)

Applied-Physics Track (89 credits, min)

0. Common core requirements above
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, approved list of upper-division lecture courses in physics or cognate subjects (same list as comprehensive requirement 4). May include one laboratory from above list and/or one class from the engineering/science applications list: AA 101, ASTRO 115, ATM S 211, CEE 220, CHEM E 220, EE 135, ESS 102, ME 123.

Teaching Preparation Track (93 credits, min.)

0. Common core requirements above
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
4. *Teaching Practicum (3 credits)*: PHYS 401-2-3, working on a project that involves teaching.
5. *Physics for High School Teachers (15 credits)*: PHYS 407, 408, 409.

Biophysics Track (115 credits, min.)

0. Common core requirements above
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. *Biochemistry (3 credits)*: BIOC 405 or 440.
6. *Biophysics (3 credits)*: PHYS 429

Proposed Catalog Entry for Physics

7. *Additional Chemistry (6 credits, min)*: Two courses from CHEM 223, 224, 428, 452, 453.
8. *Additional Biology (3 credits, min)*: One course from BIOL 220, 340, 350, 355, 401, 429.
9. *Undergraduate Research (3 credits)*: Biology-related research under PHYS 401-403, BIOC 499, BIOL 499, CHEM 499, GENOME 499, MICROM 499, NBIO 499, PBIO 499, BIOEN 499.
10. Recommended: BIOC 406 and MICROM 301

Current Catalog Entry for Physics

Deleted items in ~~strikeout type~~

Items modified (moved or expanded) in new catalog highlighted in yellow.

Physics

C121 Physics-Astronomy

www.phys.washington.edu

Physics is the study of the fundamental structure of matter and the interaction of its constituents, with the goal of providing a quantitative description of nature based on a limited number of physical principles.

Undergraduate Program

Adviser

C139A Physics-Astronomy, Box 351560

206-543-2772

The Department of Physics offers the following programs of study:

* The Bachelor of Science degree with a **major in physics**

* A minor in physics

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 credits, including the following:~~

- ~~1. Core courses (38 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 courses 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.

10. 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.

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:

NA