

COMPREHENSIVE PHYSICS

The laws of physics are the starting point for most scientific research and engineering applications. Students majoring in Physics obtain broad-based knowledge and expertise applying these laws, as well as hands-on experience building electronic equipment and performing experiments, allowing them to pursue a wide range of educational and employment opportunities after graduation.

About this Program

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/>)
- **Degrees:** Bachelor of Arts (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/PS_BA_BS/PS_BA/) | Bachelor of Science
- **BS | Specializations:** Comprehensive Physics (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/PS_BA_BS/PS_BS04/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/PSY_BS_BS01/PSY_BS04/) | Medical Physics (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/PS_BA_BS/PS_BS03/) | Nanoscience (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/PS_BA_BS/PS_BS02/) | Optics (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/PS_BA_BS/PS_BS01/)
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Contact:** Email (advising@phys.ufl.edu?Subject=Physics%20Major)
- **More Info**

To graduate with this major, students must complete all university, college, and major requirements.

Department Information

The Department of Physics is making strides toward becoming one of the premier physics departments in the United States. With active groups in astrophysics, biological physics, condensed matter/materials physics, and elementary particle physics, undergraduate and graduate students participate in cutting-edge research that prepares them for successful careers in a wide variety of fields.

Website (<https://www.phys.ufl.edu/wp/>)

CONTACT

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Curriculum

- Combination Degrees
- Physics
- Physics Minor

A Physics major provides a wide range of career options. Many students pursue further studies in physics, other scientific disciplines, and various branches of engineering and medicine. Professional physicists work in universities and government laboratories seeking answers to fundamental questions about nature, in industry leading the development of new technologies, and in the medical sector performing clinical service and research. The analytical, problem-solving, and communications skills acquired by Physics majors also lead to career opportunities in business and finance.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

The Physics BS degree program is intended for students planning to do graduate work in physics or related science and engineering disciplines. The BS requires a minimum of 41 credits in Physics plus 15 credits of foundation coursework and 13 credits of related coursework for a total of 69 credits. Students must take a minimum of 15 credits of required physics courses at UF. Minimum grades of C are required for coursework counted toward the major.

Required Foundation Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
MAC 2311	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 1	4
MAC 2312	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 2	4
MAC 2313	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 3	4
MAP 2302	Elementary Differential Equations	3
Total Credits		15

Required Major Coursework

In each case where the student must select between two courses, the second course includes selected advanced topics not covered in the first. While both courses prepare students for upper-level physics courses, students should see a department advisor to determine which course meets their needs.

Code	Title	Credits
PHY 2048 or PHY 2060	Physics with Calculus 1 Enriched Physics with Calculus 1	3
PHY 2048L	Laboratory for PHY 2048	1
PHY 2049 or PHY 2061	Physics with Calculus 2 Enriched Physics with Calculus 2	3
PHY 2049L	Laboratory for PHY 2049	1
PHY 3101 or PHY 3063	Introduction to Modern Physics Enriched Modern Physics	3
PHY 3221 or PHZ 3113	Mechanics 1 Introduction to Theoretical Physics	3
PHY 3323	Electromagnetism 1	3
PHY 3513	Thermal Physics 1	3
PHY 4222	Mechanics 2	3
PHY 4324	Electromagnetism 2	3
PHY 4523	Statistical Physics	3
PHY 4604	Introductory Quantum Mechanics 1	3
PHY 4802L	Laboratory Physics 1	3
PHY 4803L	Laboratory Physics 2	3
<i>Physics BS Major Elective</i>		
4000-level or higher physics course that is included in the Physics major curriculum ¹		3
Total Credits		41

¹ PHY 4905 and PHY 4911 are not acceptable.

Related Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
CHM 2045	General Chemistry 1	3
CHM 2046	General Chemistry 2	3
CHM 2045L	General Chemistry Laboratory	1
Approved Mathematics elective courses ¹		6
Total Credits		13

¹ Any mathematics course beyond MAP 2302 or any COP course.

PLACEMENT

Students with Advanced Placement credit should consult the catalog's Academic Advising section for course equivalencies. Sequences for advanced students are available from any physics advisor or the department website.

RESEARCH

All undergraduate majors are encouraged to participate in research activities. Many physics majors participate in research during the academic year and through summer research programs. Advanced students may also be eligible to enroll in certain graduate courses, thereby accelerating their education.

Critical Tracking

For degree requirements outside of the major, refer to CLAS Degree Requirements: Structure of a CLAS Degree (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/#degreerequirementstext>).

Critical Tracking records each student's progress in courses that are required for progress toward each major. Please note the critical-tracking requirements below on a per-semester basis.

Equivalent critical-tracking courses as determined by the State of Florida Common Course Prerequisites (<https://cpm.flvc.org/advance-search/>) may be used for transfer students.

Semester 1

- Complete (CHM 1025 or CHM 2045) or (PHY 2048 or PHY 2060) and a MAC course
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 2

- Complete CHM 2045/CHM 2045L and MAC 2311 with minimum grades of C
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 3

- Complete CHM 2046, MAC 2312, and (PHY 2048 or PHY 2060) with minimum grades of C
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 4

- Complete MAC 2313 and (PHY 2049 or PHY 2061) with minimum grades of C
- 2.5 critical-tracking GPA required
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 5

- Complete MAP 2302 with a with a minimum grade of C
- Complete 2 required 3000-level physics courses with minimum grades of C
- 2.5 critical-tracking GPA required
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 6

- Complete the remaining required 3000-level physics courses with minimum grades of C
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 7

- Complete PHY 4802L or PHY 4803L
- Complete 2 required 4000-level physics courses in addition to PHY 4802L with minimum grade of C
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 8

- Complete the remaining 4000-level physics courses required for Physics majors with minimum grades of C
- Complete one 4000-level or higher physics elective with a minimum grade of C
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Model Semester Plan

Students are expected to complete the Writing, Civic Literacy, summer enrollment, and Quest requirements while in the process of taking the courses below. Students are also expected to complete the General Education International (GE-N) requirements concurrently with another General Education requirement (typically, GE-C, H, or S) as part of the CLAS Basic Distribution requirements. One of the two general education mathematics courses must be a pure math course.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences allows students additional flexibility in its Distribution Requirements. Students may count a maximum of 6 credits TOTAL from the CLAS Distribution course lists towards Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, or Biological and Physical Sciences, with no more than 3 credits of Humanities, 3 credits of Social and Behavioral Sciences, or 6 credits of Biological or Physical Sciences.

The full list of major-specific requirements for this major can be found on the Overview tab. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree requirements can be found on the college's degree requirements page (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/#degreerequirementstext>).

MAC 2312, MAC 2313, MAP 2302, and upper-division math electives count towards 3000 level or above electives outside of the major.

This plan is structured for students taking Calculus 1 the first semester. Students can have different schedules when they enter UF because of their backgrounds. In particular, students are encouraged to take Physics with Calculus 1 (PHY 2048 or PHY 2060) as soon as they have completed

Calculus 1, even if this means delaying chemistry. For all physics courses, adequate mathematical preparation is essential and is built into the suggested plans. Physics majors should meet with a department advisor before planning their schedules.

Additional sample schedules are available from the department.

More Info (<http://www.phys.ufl.edu/academics/undergraduate/degrees.shtml/>)

To remain on track, students must complete the appropriate critical-tracking courses, which appear in bold. These courses must be completed by the terms as listed above in the Critical Tracking criteria.

This semester plan represents an example progression through the major. Actual courses and course order may be different depending on the student's academic record and scheduling availability of courses. Prerequisites still apply.

Course	Title	Credits
Semester One		
CHM 2045 & 2045L	General Chemistry 1 and General Chemistry Laboratory (Critical Tracking ; State Core Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	4
MAC 2311	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 1 (Critical Tracking ; State Core Gen Ed Mathematics)	4
State Core Gen Ed Composition (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext); Writing Requirement		3
State Core Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
	Credits	14
Semester Two		
Quest 1		3
CHM 2046	General Chemistry 2 (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	3
MAC 2312	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 2 (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Mathematics)	4
Select one:		4
PHY 2048 & 2048L	Physics with Calculus 1 and Laboratory for PHY 2048 (Critical Tracking)	
PHY 2060 & PHY 2048L	Enriched Physics with Calculus 1 and Laboratory for PHY 2048 (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	
Elective		1
	Credits	15
Semester Three		
Quest 2 (Gen Ed Biological Sciences or Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences, if needed)		3
MAC 2313	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 3 (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Mathematics)	4
Select one:		4
PHY 2049 & 2049L	Physics with Calculus 2 and Laboratory for PHY 2049 (Critical Tracking)	
PHY 2061 & PHY 2049L	Enriched Physics with Calculus 2 and Laboratory for PHY 2049 (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	
CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement ¹		4-5
	Credits	15-16
Semester Four		
MAP 2302	Elementary Differential Equations (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Mathematics) ¹	3
PHY 3101	Introduction to Modern Physics (Critical Tracking)	3
State Core Gen Ed Humanities (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
Gen Ed Biological Sciences		3
CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement ¹		3-5
	Credits	15-17
Semester Five		
PHY 3221	Mechanics 1 (Critical Tracking)	3
PHY 3513	Thermal Physics 1 (Critical Tracking)	3
Gen Ed Biological Sciences OR Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences (area not taken in semester 3)		3
Approved Mathematics elective		3
Elective (or CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement if 4-3-3 option) ¹		3
	Credits	15
Semester Six		
PHY 3323	Electromagnetism 1 (Critical Tracking) ¹	3
PHY 4222	Mechanics 2	3
Gen Ed Composition; Writing Requirement		3
Gen Ed Humanities		3

Approved Mathematics elective (recommended) or Elective		3
	Credits	15
Semester Seven		
PHY 4324	Electromagnetism 2 (Critical Tracking)	3
PHY 4604	Introductory Quantum Mechanics 1 (Critical Tracking)	3
PHY 4802L	Laboratory Physics 1 (Critical Tracking)	3
Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences		3
Elective (3000 level or higher, outside major)		4
	Credits	16
Semester Eight		
PHY 4523	Statistical Physics (Critical Tracking)	3
PHY 4803L	Laboratory Physics 2 (Critical Tracking)	3
Physics Major elective (Critical Tracking; 4000 level)		3
Gen Ed Humanities		3
Elective		3
	Credits	15
	Total Credits	120-123

¹ CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/#degreerequirementstext>)

Academic Learning Compact

The Bachelor of Science in Psychology enables students to achieve a high level of proficiency in the science of psychology, including the core natural and social science areas of psychology. Laboratory courses emphasize students' understanding of the design, analysis, and critical interpretation of psychological research. Students will also refine their core knowledge and understanding of psychological research with advanced coursework in statistics, biology, and mathematics.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Demonstrate satisfactory (minimum grade of C) performance on exams, papers, and other coursework for six credits in core psychology natural sciences (course prefixes CBH, EAB, EXP and PSB), six credits of core psychology social sciences (course prefixes CLP, DEP, SOP and PPE) and three or four credits of psychological research methodology, design, and analysis, as graded by department rubric.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes | SLOs

Content

1. Critical knowledge of basic and applied aspects of core natural science areas within psychology as well as core social science areas within psychology.
2. Knowledge of the design, analysis, and interpretation of psychological research.

Critical Thinking

3. Review, interpret, and analyze the literature in psychological science.

Communication

4. Clearly and effectively present ideas in speech and in writing that contribute to the dissemination of advances in research in psychological science.

Curriculum Map

All courses available to students are listed in the table; however, students select six credits in core psychology natural sciences, six credits of core psychology social sciences and three to four credits in psychological research methodology, design, and analysis.

I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

Courses	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3	SLO 4
DEP 4115	R			
DEP 4163	R			
DEP 4305	R			
DEP 4464	R			
DEP 4930	R			
EAB 4184	R			

EAB 4704	R			
EXP 4504	R			
PCO 3320	R			
PCO 4104	R			
PCO 4272	R			
PCO 4930	R			
PSB 3842	R			
PSB 4240	R			
PSB 4342	R			
PSB 4434	R			
PSB 4504	R			
PSB 4654	R			
PSB 4810	R			
PSB 4823	R			
PSB 4934	R			
PSY 3220		R	R	R
PSY 3443	R			
PSY 4604	R	R	R	
PSY 4930	R			
SOP 3842	R			
SOP 4444	R			
SOP 4504	R			
SOP 4704	R			
STA 3024		I, R		
Natural Sciences				
CBH 3003	I, R, A			
EAB 3002	I, R, A			
EAB 3764	I, R, A			
EXP 3104	I, R, A			
EXP 3604	I, R, A			
PSB 3002	I, R, A			
PSB 3340	I, R, A			
Social Sciences				
CLP 3144	I, R, A			
DEP 3053	I, R, A			
PPE 3003	I, R, A			
SOP 3004	I, R, A			
Laboratories				
DEP 4704C		I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
EAB 4022C		I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
EAB 4714C		I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
EXP 4174C		I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
EXP 4934C		I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
PPE 4324C		I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
PSY 3213L		I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
SOP 4214C		I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
Individual work in research, teaching, or community service				
PSY 3912		R	R	R
PSY 4905	R			
PSY 4940	R			

PSY 4949 R

PSY 4970 R R R

Assessment Types

- Exams
 - Papers
-