

B.A. in Physics

[Overview](#)

[Degree Requirements](#)

Description

The B.A. degree in physics is suggested for students wishing to teach physics in high school or to enter graduate or professional schools, such as medical school or law school. The department also offers a special B.A. curriculum for pre-medical students, which includes physics courses that are especially useful for medical students. It is recommended that students interested in teaching high school physics obtain a B.A. physics degree and a secondary education certification.

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

General Education Requirements

See the 'General Education/Core Curriculum' for the College of Liberal Arts.

Course Requirements

A major in physics for the B.A. degree requires 26 semester hours of physics classes. Students must follow one of two tracks: (1) Phys 211, 212, 221, 222 or (2) Phys 213, 214, 223, 224, 303. Students may satisfy the Phys 211-212 or the 213-214 requirements by demonstrating a high level of proficiency on an exam, but will need to complete the 26 hours of physics by taking additional higher-level Phys courses. Both tracks require Phys 498, Math 261, and Math 262. For track (1), at least 16 hours of approved physics courses at the 300 level or higher are required. In addition to Phys 303, track (2) requires at least 13 hours of approved physics courses at the 300 level or higher. Both tracks must include at least 6 hours of approved physics courses at the 400 level or above. Students following track (1) cannot take Phys 303 for credit toward the major.

The special B.A. physics curriculum for pre-medical students uses the same two tracks (and the restriction on Phys 303), but specifies that the 16 or 13 hours of physics electives must be chosen from the following group of courses: Phys 315, 319, 321, 413, 415, 417, and 422.

