

Physics Major Requirements
Catalog Year: 2015-16
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Physics Major Credit Hours: 58+

"PR" indicates a pre-requisite. "CO" indicates a co-requisite.

Courses within this major may also satisfy general education requirements. Please consult <http://registrar.cofc.edu/general-edu> for more information.

Required Courses

- PHYS 111 General Physics I (3) PR or CO: MATH 120 or equivalent or instructor permission; CO: PHYS 111L
- PHYS 111L General Physics I Lab (1) CO: PHYS 111

- PHYS 112* General Physics II (3) PR: PHYS 111 or HONS 157; CO or PR: MATH 220 or equivalent or instructor permission; CO: PHYS 112L
- PHYS 112L General Physics II Lab (1) CO: PHYS 112

- PHYS 230 Introduction to Modern Physics I (3) PR: PHYS 112 or HONS 158; CO or PR: MATH 211 or instructor permission

- PHYS 301 Classical Mechanics (3) PR: PHYS 112 or HONS 158 and MATH 323 or PHYS 272 or permission of instructor

- PHYS 370 Experimental Physics (4) PR: PHYS 230 or instructor permission

- PHYS 403 Introductory Quantum Mechanics (3) PR: PHYS 230 and MATH 323 or PHYS 272, or instructor permission

- PHYS 409 Electricity and Magnetism (3) PR: PHYS 112 or HONS 158 and MATH 323 or PHYS 272 or permission of instructor

- PHYS 419 Research Seminar (1) PR or CO: PHYS 370 or ASTR 377 or instructor and department chair permission

- PHYS 420** Senior Research (3) PR: PHYS 419 and instructor and department chair permission
- OR**
- PHYS 499** Bachelor's Essay (1-6) PR: PHYS 419 or department chair permission. Credit will not be awarded for both PHYS 420 and PHYS 499

Notes: * Upon completion of PHYS 101 with a grade of B or better and successful completion of MATH 120, a student may transfer to PHYS 112. **Credit will not be awarded for both PHYS 420 and PHYS 499.

Select 15 credit hours from the following electives with department approval. Please note a maximum of 6 credit hours are allowed from PHYS 381, 390 and 399.

- ASTR 306 Planetary Astronomy (3) PR: ASTR 231
- ASTR 311 Stellar Astronomy and Astrophysics (3) PR: ASTR 231 and MATH 221
- ASTR 312 Galactic and Extragalactic Astronomy (3) PR: ASTR 231 and MATH 221
- ASTR 377 Experimental Astronomy (4) PR: ASTR 231
- ASTR 410 Black Holes: Advanced Topics (1) PR: PHYS 112, PHYS 112L or instructor permission; PR or CO: ASTR 210
- ASTR 413 Astrophysics (3) PR: PHYS 301 and MATH 323 or instructor permission
- ASTR 460L NASA Space Mission Design Leadership Lab (1) PR: Instructor permission; PR or CO: ASTR 260
- PHYS 302 Classical Mechanics (3) PR: PHYS 301
- PHYS 308 Atmospheric Physics (3) PR: PHYS 112, PHYS 112L or HONS 158 or instructor permission
- PHYS 320 Intro to Electronics (4) PR: PHYS 102 and MATH 120 or PHYS 112 or HONS 158 or instructor permission

PHYS 331	Intro to Modern Physics II (3) <i>PR: PHYS 230</i>
PHYS 340	Photonics (4) <i>PR: PHYS 112, PHYS 112L or HONS 158</i>
PHYS 350	Energy Production (4) <i>PR: CHEM 111, CHEM 111L; (PHYS 112, 112L or HONS 158) or (PHYS 102, 102L and MATH 120)</i>
PHYS 381	Internship (1-4) <i>PR: Declared PHYS major, PHYS 370, and coordinator permission</i>
PHYS 390	Research (1-3; repeatable up to 6) <i>PR: Department chair and instructor permission</i>
PHYS 394	Digital Signal and Image Processing with Biomedical Applications (3) <i>PR: PHYS 112 and 112L or HONS 158 and 158L; CO: PHYS 394L</i>
PHYS 394L	Digital Signal and Image Processing with Biomedical Applications Laboratory (1) <i>PR: PHYS 112 and 112L or HONS 158 and 158L; CO: PHYS 394</i>
PHYS 396	Biophysics Model and Excitable Cells (3) <i>PR: BIOL 111 or HONS 151 and PHYS 112 or HONS 158 or permission of instructor</i>
PHYS 397	Research Experience Physics and Astronomy (0) <i>PR: Only declared majors can take a Zero Credit Research course. Instructor and department chair permission required.</i>
PHYS 399	Tutorial (3, repeatable up to 12) <i>PR: Junior standing and department chair and instructor permission</i>
PHYS 405	Thermal Physics (3) <i>PR: PHYS 230 and MATH 323 or PHYS 272, or instructor permission</i>
PHYS 407	Introduction to Nuclear Physics (3) <i>PR: PHYS 230 or instructor permission</i>
PHYS 408	Introduction to Solid State Physics (3) <i>PR: PHYS 230 and MATH 323 or PHYS 272, or instructor permission</i>
PHYS 410	Electricity and Magnetism (3) <i>PR: PHYS 409</i>
PHYS 412	Special Topics (1-3) <i>PR: Instructor permission</i>
PHYS 415	Fluid Mechanics (3) <i>PR: MATH 323 and PHYS 301 or instructor permission</i>
PHYS 456	Air Pollution Meteorology (4) <i>PR: PHYS 112, PHYS 112L or (PHYS 102, PHYS 102L and MATH 120) or HONS 158; CHEM 112, CHEM 112L or instructor permission</i>
PHYS 457	Satellite Meteorology (3) <i>PR: PHYS 308 or PHYS 456 or (PHYS 105 and PHYS 112, PHYS 112L) or (PHYS 105 and PHYS 102, PHYS 102L and MATH 120) or (PHYS 105 and HONS 158)</i>
PHYS 458	Climate Change (4) <i>PR: PHYS 112, PHYS 112L or HONS 158</i>
PHYS 460L	NASA Space Mission Design Leadership Lab (1) <i>PR: Instructor permission; CO: PHYS 260</i>

Mathematics Requirement:

- MATH 120 Introductory Calculus (4) *PR: Placement or C- or better in MATH 111*
- MATH 220 Calculus II (4) *PR: MATH 120 or HONS 115*
- MATH 221 Calculus III (4) *PR: MATH 220 or equivalent*
- MATH 323 Differential Equations (3) *PR: MATH 221 and MATH 203 or equivalent or permission of instructor*

Optional: Students may also select a concentration in [Computational Neuroscience](#), [Energy Production](#) or [Meteorology](#).

Notes:

- With department approval, completion with grades of at least "B" in PHYS 101/101L and PHYS 102/102L, together with MATH 120 and MATH 220 may be substituted for PHYS 111/111L and PHYS 112/112L.
- Suggested programs of study leading to graduate school in physics, astronomy, astrophysics, meteorology and engineering are available from the department.