

PHYSICS MINOR

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

The Physics Minor provides students with the opportunity to build on their introductory physics courses with a coordinated set of electives based on interests and career objectives selected in consultation with a physics advisor.

Students may earn a minor in Physics by completing a course of study consisting of 18 units in physics and astronomy, of which 10 units must be upper division, and no more than 4 units may be from astronomy courses.

Program Learning Objectives

1. Apply the foundational principles of introductory classical and modern physics to solve problems.
2. Model physical phenomena through the application of selected topics drawn from upper-division physics and astronomy courses.
3. Collect and analyze data from the safe operation of equipment in a physics laboratory.
4. Communicate problem solutions and principles of physics effectively through written work.

Minor Requirements and Curriculum

The minor must be completed prior to, or at the same time as, the requirements for the bachelor's degree. A major and a minor may not be taken in the same degree program, and a minor is not required for a degree. Requirements for the minor include:

- At least half of the units must be from upper-division courses (3000-4000 level).
- At least half of the units must be taken at Cal Poly (in residence).
- No more than one-third of the units will be taken with credit-no credit grading (CR/NC), not counting courses with mandatory CR/NC. Departments may further limit CR/NC grading if desired.
- A minimum 2.0 GPA is required in all units counted for completion of the minor.

Code	Title	Units
REQUIRED COURSES		
PHYS 1143	General Physics II	4
PHYS 2211	General Physics III: Modern Physics	4
Approved Electives		
Select from the following:		3-4
PHYS 3301	Statistical Mechanics	
PHYS 3305	Classical Mechanics I	
PHYS 3323	Optics	
PHYS 4405	Quantum Mechanics I	
PHYS 4408	Electromagnetic Fields and Waves I	
PHYS 4425	Solid State Physics	
Select from the following: ^{1, 2}		6-7
Select any 3000-4000 level PHYS courses		
ASTR 3301	Stars and Planetary Systems	
ASTR 3302	Galaxies and Cosmology	
ASTR 4444	Observational Astronomy	
Total Units		18

¹ A maximum of 4 units may be from ASTR courses.

² A maximum of 2 units may be from PHYS 4400 and/or PHYS 4404.