

PHYSICS

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COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Ali, Naushad, Professor, Ph.D., University of Alberta, Canada, 1984; 1986.

Aouadi, Samir, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of British Columbia, 1994; 2002.

Byrd, Mark, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, 1999; 2003.

Calbi, Maria de las Mercedes, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1999; 2003.

Cutnell, John D., Professor, *Emeritus*, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, 1967; 1968.

Gaitan, Frank, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1992; 1999.

Gruber, Bruno J., Professor, *Emeritus*, Ph.D., University of Vienna, Austria, 1961; 1972.

Henneberger, Walter C., Professor, *Emeritus*, Ph.D., Gottingen University, Germany, 1959; 1963.

Johnson, Kenneth W., Professor, *Emeritus*, Ph.D., Ohio State University, 1967; 1970.

Malhotra, Vivak, Professor, Ph.D., Kanpur University, India, 1978; 1984.

Malik, F. Bary, Professor, Ph.D., Gottingen University, 1958; 1980.

Masden, J. Thomas, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Purdue University, 1983; 1984.

Migone, Aldo D., Professor and *Chair*, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, 1984; 1986.

Sanders, Frank C., Jr., Associate Professor, *Emeritus*, Ph.D., University of Texas, 1968; 1969.

Saporoschenko, Mykola, Professor, *Emeritus*, Ph.D., Washington University, 1958; 1965.

Stadler, Shane, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Tulane University, 1998; 2001.

Watson, Richard E., Professor, *Emeritus*, Ph.D., University of Illinois, 1938; 1958

The Department of Physics offers graduate work leading to the Master of Science degree with a major in physics.

In addition to the general requirements of the Graduate School, the student must complete PHYS 500a (or mathematics equivalent), 510, 520a,b, and 530a,b. Other specific requirements for the master's degrees are as follows.

Master of Science

A reading knowledge of a foreign language or demonstrated competence of computer skill is required. This requirement can be met by passing one of the Educational Testing Service's graduate foreign language examinations for the language option, or by passing FL 488 with a grade of *A* or *B*, for the language option, or by passing MATH 475a, CS 464a, or an equivalent course in numerical analysis for the computer skills option. English can be substituted for either of the above requirements at the discretion of the graduate adviser provided it is not the native language of the candidate. Physics 424 may be substituted for the foreign language requirement.

A thesis is required, based upon not more than 6 nor less than 3 semester hours of 599-level credit. The 599 credit requirement is in addition to the minimum of 15-hour requirement at the 500 level as stated in this catalog and should be distributed preferably over several terms of enrollment. Each candidate for an M.S. degree is required to earn one credit in PHYS 581 by lecturing in the graduate seminar and is required to pass an examination, written or oral or both, covering graduate work including the thesis. This examination is given by the student's advisory committee.

Courses (PHYS)

410-3 Mechanics II. Gravitation, continuous media, transformation properties, Lagrangian and Hamiltonian formalisms. Prerequisite: 310 with grade of *C* or better.

420-3 Electricity and Magnetism II. Induced electromotive force, quasisteady currents and fields, Maxwell's equations, electromagnetic waves and radiation, with applications. Prerequisite: 320 with grade of *C* or better.

424-4 Electronics for Scientists. Coordinated two-hour lecture and four-hour laboratory study of electronics. Emphasis is on overall modern electronics and its applications in the experimental research laboratory setting. Topics include DC and AC circuit theory, measurement techniques, semiconductor active devices, operational amplifiers and feedback, digital circuits, Boolean algebra, microprocessors and large scale integration, digital to analog and analog to digital conversion, and data acquisition. Prerequisite: 203b or 205b and Mathematics 111 with grade of *C* or better.

425-3 Solid State Physics I. Structure of a crystalline solid; lattice vibrations and thermal properties; electrons in metals; band theory; electrons and holes in semiconductors; opto-electronic phenomena in solids; dielectric and magnetic properties; superconductivity. Prerequisite: 310, 320, 345 and 430 with grade of *C* or better.

428-3 Modern Optics and Lasers. Properties of electromagnetic waves in space and media, polarization and interference phenomena and devices, electro- and magneto-optic effects, optical gain and lasers. Prerequisite: 420 with grade of *C* or better.

430-3 Quantum Mechanics I. An introduction to quantum mechanics including its experimental basis and application in atomic physics. Prerequisite: 205c, 310 and 320 with grade of *C* or better. Prior or concurrent enrollment in 410 and 420 is desirable.

431-3 Atomic and Molecular Physics I. Atomic spectra and structure; molecular spectra and structure. Prerequisite: 430 with grade of *C* or better.

432-3 Nuclear Physics I. Basic nuclear properties and structure; radioactivity, nuclear excitation, and reactions, nuclear forces; fission and fusion. Prerequisite: 430 with grade of C or better.

445-3 Statistical Mechanics I. An introductory course in the principles and applications of classical and quantum statistical mechanics, and the elementary kinetic theory of matter. Prerequisite: 345 with grade of C or better.

450-1 Modern Physics Laboratory. Introduces students to experimental research and encourages them to develop and carry out experiments. Prerequisite: 205c with grade of C or better.

458-2 Laser and Optical Physics Laboratory. Properties of laser beams and resonators, fluorescence and two photon spectroscopy, diffraction, Fourier transformation and frequency filtering, electro- and magneto-optic modulation, fiber propagation and related experiments. Prerequisite: 428 with a grade of C or better.

470-1 to 3 Special Projects. Each student chooses or is assigned a definite investigative project or topic. Prerequisite: 310, 320 or consent of instructor.

500-6 (3,3) Mathematical Methods in Physics. Vector spaces and operators in physics. Hilbert spaces and complete orthonormal sets of functions. Elements and applications of the theory of analytic functions. Methods for the solution of partial differential equations of physics. Prerequisite: Mathematics 407 or equivalent, consent of instructor.

510-4 Classical Mechanics. Generalized coordinates and forces. Lagrangian, Hamiltonian, and variational formulations of mechanics. Central forces, oscillations; normal modes of molecular systems. Prerequisite: 410.

520-6 (3,3) Electromagnetic Theory. Determination of static, electrostatic, and magnetostatic fields. Microscopic and macroscopic theory of insulators and conductors. Maxwell's equations; radiation, propagation and scattering of electromagnetic waves. Electrodynamics and special theory of relativity. Selected topics. Prerequisite: 420.

530-6 (3,3) Quantum Mechanics II. Basic principles; the harmonic oscillator and the hydrogen atom; scattering; approximation and perturbation methods; spin, statistics. Prerequisite: Mathematics 406 or consent of instructor; 500 desirable.

531-6 (3,3) Advanced Quantum Mechanics. Quantum theory of radiation; applications of field theory to elementary particles; covariant quantum electrodynamics; renormalization; special topics. Content varies somewhat with instructor. Prerequisite: 530 and consent.

535-6 (3,3) Atomic and Molecular Physics II. Recent experimental methods in atomic and molecular spectroscopy with applications. Detailed quantum mechanical and group theoretical treatment of atomic and molecular systems. Reactions between atomic systems. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

545-6 (3,3) Statistical Mechanics II. Principles of classical and quantum equilibrium statistics; fluctuation phenomena; special topics in equilibrium and non-equilibrium phenomena. Prerequisite: 445.

550-3 Computational Physics. Using modern computers to solve physics problems. Integration of ordinary and partial differential equations, interpolation and extrapolation, finite element analysis, linear and nonlinear equations, eigensystems, optimization, root finding, Monte Carlo simulations, etc. Prerequisite: Mathematics 305, computer language FORTRAN or C, or consent of instructor.

560-6 (3,3) Nuclear Physics II. Fundamental properties and systematics of nuclei, scattering theory, nuclear two-body problem, nuclear models, nuclear many-body problem, electromagnetic properties of nuclei, radioactivity, nuclear reactions. Prerequisite: 530 and consent of instructor.

565-6 (3,3) Solid State Physics II. Fundamental concepts in solid state physics. Lattice vibrations, band theory of solids, the Fermi surface, dynamics of electrons. Transport, cohesive, optical, magnetic and other properties of solids. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

570-1 to 36 Special Projects in Physics. Each student works on a definite investigative topic under the supervision of a faculty sponsor. The projects are taken from the current research in the department. Resourcefulness and initiative are required. Graded *S/U* only. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

571-6 (3,3) X-Ray Diffraction and Electron Microscopy. (See Mechanical Engineering 504.)

575-1 to 12 (1 to 4 per topic for a maximum of three topics) Special Topics in Physics. The courses reflect special research interests of the faculty and current developments in physics. They are offered as the need arises and interest and time permit. Students are required to give presentations. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

581-1 to 3 (1,1,1) Graduate Seminar. Lectures on special topics by students, faculty, or invited scholars; participation is required of all graduate students. For credit each student may present a seminar in the form of a lecture on a theoretical or experimental topic, a demonstration experiment or apparatus critique. Prerequisite: lecturing experience or concurrent teaching. Graded *S/U* only.

598-1 to 50 (1 to 12 per semester) Research. Maximum credit 50 hours. Graded *S/U* only. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

599-1 to 6 Thesis.

601-1 per semester Continuing Enrollment. For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of working on their dissertation, thesis, or research paper. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation research, or the minimum thesis, or research hours before being eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded *S/U* or *DEF* only.

699-1 Postdoctoral Research. One credit hour per semester. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Prerequisite: must be a Postdoctoral Fellow.