Physics, B.A.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

**Before the third semester begins:** calculus II and physics II.

**Before the fifth semester begins:** physics III-IV and up to four more courses in the major.

**Before the seventh semester begins:** two to four more courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

**Before the eighth semester begins:** two or three more courses in the major.

**During the eighth semester:** enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

### Physics, B.A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Career</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Any Semester</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Research: students are strongly encouraged to be active participants in research within the department.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GE CLAS Core: Sustainability a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First Year</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PHYS:1701</td>
<td>Physics I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH:1850</td>
<td>Calculus I b</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200</td>
<td>Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature</td>
<td>3 - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences c</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSI:1600</td>
<td>Success at Iowa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td>16-17</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PHYS:1702</td>
<td>Physics II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH:1860</td>
<td>Calculus II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200</td>
<td>Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature</td>
<td>3 - 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion c</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td>14-15</td>
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### Second Year

**Fall**
- PHYS:2703 Physics III
- MATH:2700 Introduction to Linear Algebra d
- GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture c
- GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course e

**Hours** 15-16

**Spring**
- PHYS:2704 Physics IV
- MATH:2850 Calculus III d
- GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues c
- GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course e
- Elective course g

**Hours** 14-16

### Third Year

**Fall**
- PHYS:3756 Intermediate Laboratory
- Major: physics elective course numbered 3000 or above f
- GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives c
- GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course e

**Hours** 13-14

**Spring**
- Major: additional STEM course in chosen thematic area
- Major: physics elective course numbered 3000 or above f
- GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course e
- Elective course g

**Hours** 15

### Fourth Year

**Fall**
- Major: additional STEM course in chosen thematic area
- Major: physics elective course numbered 3000 or above f
- GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts c
- Elective course g

**Hours** 15

**Spring**
- Major: additional STEM course in chosen thematic area
- Major: physics elective course numbered 3000 or above f
- Elective course g
- Elective course g
- Elective course g

**Degree Application:** apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall)

**Hours** 15

**Total Hours** 116-125
a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
b Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.
c GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
d While this course is not a major requirement, it is strongly recommended and a prerequisite for many physics and astronomy courses in the department.
e Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
f See General Catalog for a list of approved courses.
g Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
h Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.