

Physics

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Discover the secrets to the universe through Lee College's physics program, whether you are an aspiring scientist, engineer, or someone simply searching for an amazing science elective. In our physics courses, you will have the chance to learn about the everyday world around you as well as dive into the "impossible." Indeed, far more is possible than most people can imagine (such as invisibility or how you might time travel without violating any known laws of physics, and much, much more).

For those who want to take an incredible journey toward becoming a physicist, we offer an associate's degree in physics, transferring toward a bachelor's degree at a four-year university. Students will gain an understanding of our universe, critical thinking, team work, and problem solving appropriate for a profession in physics.

For those pursuing technical fields, we offer a wide range of courses in support of your studies.

For those who are simply searching for a general science elective, we offer courses in the physics of science fiction (TV shows, movies, etc.) as well as courses in astronomy. We also offer specialized courses for those in select majors, such as education.

What Will I Learn?

You'll learn the principles and applications of physics, such as chemistry, astronomy, geology, meteorology, thermodynamics, electromagnetism, and nuclear physics. Associate degrees are offered in physics and astronomy, transferring toward a bachelor's degree at a four-year university.

What Can I Do with This Course of Study?

Students majoring in physics can often select from a wide variety of career fields and disciplines including:

- Engineers
- Physicians
- Dentists
- Veterinarians
- Patent law
- Education
- Finance
- Energy sector
- Astrophysics
- High energy physics
- Cosmology
- Condensed matter
- Physical oceanography

Degrees and Certificate

Associate of Science

Physics (AS) Degree Plan

Entry prerequisites

- CHEM 1411
- MATH 2412

Semester 1

- ENGL 1301 Ω - English Composition I \blacklozenge
- HIST 1301 Ω - History of the United States to 1877 \blacklozenge
- MATH 2413 - Calculus I with Analytic Geometry \blacklozenge
- CHEM 1412 - General Chemistry II \blacklozenge
- Institutional Requirement \blacklozenge
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Semester 2

- ENGL 1302 Ω - English Composition II \blacklozenge
- HIST 1302 Ω - History of the United States Since 1877 \blacklozenge
- MATH 2414 - Calculus II with Analytic Geometry
- PHYS 2425 Ω - University Physics I \blacklozenge

Semester 3

- Creative Arts Elective \blacklozenge
- GOVT 2305 Ω - Federal Government \blacklozenge
- MATH 2415 - Calculus III with Analytic Geometry
- PHYS 2426 Ω - University Physics II \blacklozenge

Semester 3

- MATH 2320 - Differential Equations *
- GOVT 2306 Ω - Texas Government \blacklozenge
- ECON 2301 - Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics \blacklozenge
- Language, Philosophy, and Culture Elective \blacklozenge
- SPCH 1315 Ω - Principles of Public Speaking \blacklozenge

*Spring semesters only

Note: Math 2318, Linear Algebra, is also recommended

\blacklozenge Core curriculum course.

General Science Elective Course Options

These courses can be used to fulfill your general science elective. And if you are going to take a science course, why take one that will show you just how amazing our universe actually is?

Don't worry, even though these courses have a PHYS in front of them, there will not be much math required! These general elective courses tend to focus primarily on the IDEAS as opposed to breaking out your calculator every few moments (we save the challenging calculations for the other physics courses!)

PHYS 1403 — Stars and Galaxies

An astronomy course that will allow you to explore our vast universe! Learn about wonders in our universe such as the beautiful stars in the night sky, black holes, other galaxies, and much more!

PHYS 1404 — The Solar System

Our other astronomy course that show you how to explore the universe from your own backyard! We will discover the wonders of our nearest neighbors in the universe. And answer questions such as: which planets or moons might be the best places to colonize? What would it be like standing on the surface of Venus or Mars? What wonders await us as we prepare to one day send our astronauts beyond the Earth and Moon?

PHYS 1415 — Physical Science I

EDUCATION MAJORS! This is the course for you! PHYS 1415 was developed by Physics Education Researchers to not only teach you the science topics, but also HOW to teach science. This course will prepare you to teach even the toughest TEKS! You will learn some of the most powerful educational reforms ever discovered and how to use them in your own classes! You will leave PHYS 1415 with a huge set of science activities that you will be able to use in your classroom the next day!

PHYS 1417 — Physical Science II

EDUCATION MAJORS! This is a continuation of the fun from PHYS 1415! Learn about even more educational reforms! More amazing science! And be even better prepared to teach those tough TEKS!

PHYS 1317 — Physical Science II

SCI-FI Physics! Yes, this is the general science elective for those who are Sci—Fi fans! Do you enjoy superhero movies? Are you a fan of space movies like Star Wars or Star Trek? This is the class for you! We will explore TV shows, movies, etc. to discover what is real is what is ridiculous! By the way, this course can be taken WITHOUT taking PHYS 1415 first, and so you can dive right in!

Physics Courses for Technical Degrees

In general, physics courses are sorted by the level of math required. Be sure to check your degree plan and track to ensure that you are signing up for the correct physics course. For the most part, more advanced math based courses generally can be counted in lieu of a less mathematically advanced course (although, the more mathematically advanced course are considered far more challenging!).

PHYS 2425, 2426 — University Physics

These are the calculus-based physics courses. Generally, students majoring in physics, chemistry, engineering, computer science, and math majors will be required to take these courses.

PHYS 1401, 1402 — College Physics

These are the algebra-based physics courses. Generally, biology, environmental science, some process technology degree tracks (but not all), along with architecture and other technical degree plans will enroll in these courses.

PHYS 1405, 1407 — Conceptual Physics

These are the conceptual physics courses. Some process technology degree tracks allow the student to take either 1401 or 1405 (though, the 1401 class is the more challenging course mathematically speaking). This is also a good course for those needing a general science elective.

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