

Physics Minor Checklist

Name: _____

Major: _____

Class Year: _____

Two foundational courses in physics (2.5 credits)

- ☐ PHYS 231 *Electricity & Magnetism* (or AP credit)
- ☐ PHYS 232 *Optics and Modern Physics*

Prerequisite

- PHYS 141 & MATH 132 (or concurrent registration)
PHYS 141 & MATH 132 (or concurrent registration)

Two foundational courses in mathematics (2.25 – 2.5 credits)

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|--------------------------|------------------|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MATH 132 | <i>Calculus II</i> (or AP credit) | MATH 131 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Either of these: | | |
| | MATH 231 | <i>Calculus III: Multivariable Calc</i> | MATH 132 |
| | MATH 234 | <i>Differential Equations</i> | MATH 132 |

Two physics electives (2 credits)

Courses must be taken at Trinity; cannot be fulfilled with transfer, study away, or consortium credits

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Choose from the following list:

- | | | |
|----------|---|---|
| PHYS 300 | <i>Mathematical Methods of Physics</i> | PHYS 231 & MATH 231 |
| PHYS 301 | <i>Analytical Mechanics</i> | PHYS 231 & either MATH 231 or 234 |
| PHYS 302 | <i>Electrodynamics</i> | PHYS 231 & MATH 231 |
| PHYS 304 | <i>Statistical & Thermal Physics</i> | PHYS 141 & MATH 132 |
| PHYS 313 | <i>Quantum Mechanics</i> | PHYS 232 |
| PHYS 316 | <i>Experimental Laser Optics</i> | PHYS 231 & 232 |
| PHYS 317 | <i>Relativity & Fundamental Particles</i> | PHYS 231 & 232 |
| PHYS 320 | <i>Modern Physical Measurements</i> | PHYS 231 & 232 |
| PHYS 330 | <i>Astronomy & Astrophysics</i> | PHYS 231 & PHYS 232 (or permission of instructor) |

Physics courses offered every year

Fall: PHYS 141, 232

Spring: PHYS 231, 300, 301

Physics courses offered every other year

Fall: PHYS 313, 330

Spring: PHYS 317, 320

Fall: PHYS 302, 304

Spring: PHYS 316, new elective coming...

Study Plan Worksheet Most physics electives are offered in alternating years, so taking the foundational courses as early as possible will give you the most flexibility in your schedule.

	Fall	Spring
First-Year	PHYS 141 MATH 131	PHYS 231 MATH 132
Sophomore	PHYS 232 MATH 231 or MATH 234	
Junior		
Senior		

FAQ's

- I'm currently taking Phys-231 this spring and want to minor in Physics. What should I take next fall?

Take PHYS 232 next fall – it's the gateway to most of the upper-level courses. Pair this with either MATH 231 or MATH 234.

- Can I double-count the courses for the Physics minor with the requirements for my major?

Yes up to three! For instance, if you are an Engineering major you will need to take only Phys-232 and two 300-level physics courses beyond the requirements for your major to complete the minor in physics. Chemistry and Biochemistry requirements also overlap with the Physics minor.

- If I start with the Physics minor can I easily turn that into a Physics major later on?

Yes! The foundational courses for the minor are the same as the foundational courses for the major. All of the electives for the Physics minor are either required courses or electives for the major.