

# Physics

Are you curious and imaginative? Do you get personal satisfaction from solving problems? Do you enjoy math and analyzing the physical world? Do you want to solve the mysteries of the universe? Then a degree in physics may be for you! Modern society is influenced by physics in countless ways. Recent development in fields such as laser optics, miniaturized electronics, nanotechnology, nuclear energy and medical instrumentation, are just some of the ways physics advances society today.

## Majors

- **Physics** - Teaching
- **Physics** - Liberal Arts
- **Physics** - Applied

**Comprehensive majors (no minor required)**

- **Physics/Math** - Teaching
- **Physical Science** - Teaching

## Minors

- **Physics** - Teaching
- **Physics** - Liberal Arts

## Where you'll find our grads

- Computer Programmer, Celestica, Eau Claire, WI
- Astronomer, SIRT Science Center, California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, CA
- Graduate Student, University of Minnesota, Purdue, University of Wisconsin- Madison
- Quality Engineer and World Wide Stop Ship Coordinator, IBM in Rochester, MN
- Physics Teacher, Palm Beach County, FL and Cadott, WI

- National Research Council Research Association, NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX

## Prepared for Success

Our physics graduates participate in life-changing endeavors such as developing methods and tools that diagnose and cure disease, managing traffic flow in large cities, predicting geological phenomena such as earthquakes, creating new materials, and developing cleaner fuels for automobiles.

UW-Eau Claire graduates more physics majors than most other four-year colleges in the country, according to a recent American Institute of Physics study. Physics majors are well prepared for graduate studies in the area of physics, surface science, astronomy, materials science, medical physics, medicine, teaching, engineering, architecture, and law. They are also prepared for careers with computer companies, planetariums, government laboratories, the military, technology and materials companies, and the Peace Corps.

## Why UW-Eau Claire

### Research Opportunities

The large Physics department at UW-Eau Claire offers a wide variety of possible research areas for students. This unique opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty in physics research spans the discipline. Some examples include atomic or acoustical physics, materials science, near-IR spectroscopy of planetary nebulae, X-ray spectroscopy of hot stars, computational science research and planetary science. Some students are currently using the Chandra X-ray telescope orbiting the Earth, some are developing new semiconductor technology and some are working with local companies to improve products.

### Innovative Facilities

As a student you have access to the Materials Science Center. No other similar campus in the upper Midwest has equipment and technology such as atomic force microscope, a scanning tunneling electron microscope and an x-ray diffractometer, to name a few, concentrated in one center. Unlike other universities, UW-Eau Claire also provides the opportunity for interdisciplinary collaborative projects with faculty. In addition, students have access to a 24-inch reflecting telescope at Hobbs Observatory, a rare piece of instrumentation for students to access.

## Contact Info:

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The Power of **AND**

University of Wisconsin  
**Eau Claire**

# Physics (continued)

## First-Year Suggested Curriculum

- University writing requirement — depending on placement exam
- Precalculus Math or Calculus I
- General Chemistry
- Calculus II
- University Physics I
- Intro to Computer Programming
- Social sciences or humanities course

## Course Work / Pre- Professional Courses

UW-Eau Claire has a strong Pre-engineering program where students usually spend two years at UW-Eau Claire before transferring to an engineering school to complete their degree. We also offer a dual degree program, which allows students to earn two bachelor's degrees in approximately five years — a physics degree from UW-Eau Claire and an engineering degree from either UW-Madison or the University of Minnesota.