The Department of Physics offers a program of study leading to the Bachelor of Science degree, as well as a minor. The program is one of the largest in the nation, with over 150 majors graduating every year. As of Autumn Quarter 2016, physics is a “minimum requirement major;” there is no “cap” on the number of majors, nor is admission competitive. There is a petition process for students who wish to major in physics but do not currently meet the minimum requirements. Details are available here. Students may not declare a major during the first two weeks of any quarter unless they have a hold on their registration due to the lack of a major.

Recent graduates have continued to further studies in physics and other fields (such as astronomy, medicine, teaching, law, business, biology, or engineering). Currently, about half of the graduates join the private sector in a variety of technical occupations where analytical, computational, and problem-solving skills are highly valued, while about a quarter go on to graduate work in physics, and the remaining quarter to advanced study in other fields.

We encourage our undergraduates to join research groups early on to fulfill the requirements of research/independent study credits and to establish contacts with graduate students and faculty.

Undergraduate Program Information

- Declaring a Physics Major
- Paths to Graduation
- BS in Physics - Major Requirements and Tracks
- Minor in Physics
- Senior Honors Program