

PHYSICS, PHD

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail

Minimum Credit Requirement 51 credits

Minimum Residence Credit Requirement 32 credits

Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement 26 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/>).

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement 3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/>).

Other Grade Requirements Must have a grade of B or better in all coursework.

Assessments and Examinations Physics doctoral students are required to pass the qualifying examination at the PhD level by the end of their fourth semester.

Students are also required to take a comprehensive preliminary/oral examination. It is recommended that this is completed by the end of the fifth semester.

All Incomplete and Progress grades (other than research and thesis) must be cleared from the student's record prior to taking the preliminary examination.

A final oral defense and deposit of the doctoral dissertation in the Graduate School is required.

Language Requirements Contact the program for information on any language requirements.

Graduate School Breadth Requirements All doctoral students are required to complete a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. Refer to the Graduate School: Breadth Requirement in Doctoral Training policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/>).

REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
Core		
Students must complete the following courses. Courses must be repeated until at least a B is earned.		
PHYSICS 711	Theoretical Physics–Dynamics	3
PHYSICS 715	Statistical Mechanics	3
PHYSICS 721	Theoretical Physics–Electrodynamics	3
PHYSICS 731	Quantum Mechanics	3
PHYSICS 732	Quantum Mechanics	3
Seminars		
PHYSICS 701	Graduate Introductory Seminars	1
Additional Coursework		35
In consultation with advisor, students must complete additional coursework to meet the minimum credit requirement. All Physics courses meeting degree requirements must be numbered 500 and above.		
Total Credits		51