

# ENGINEERING PHYSICS MAJOR

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This interdisciplinary program provides students with a broad science and mathematics background similar to that of Tulane's traditional physics major, combined with a strong grounding in engineering design and the application of physics principles to practical engineering problems. The curriculum is characterized by a strong emphasis on modern physics and its application to 21<sup>st</sup> century technology, including new materials, quantum electronics, nanofabrication, and devices. Focus areas in our department include: materials engineering, computational engineering, and nano devices. Our students will be well equipped to pursue research and development careers in new and emerging technologies that cut across traditional engineering and science disciplines, to pursue graduate studies in science or engineering, or to enter professional fields including law, management, and medicine. Graduates will have substantial experience with laboratory methods, data analysis, and computation. A centerpiece of the curriculum is the design sequence, consisting of a two-semester Introduction to Design sequence, a summer industry internship, and a two-semester capstone Team Design Project. As an intrinsic part of the curriculum, students develop strong oral and written communication skills, multidisciplinary teamwork skills, experience in public service, and knowledge about the high ethical standards of the engineering profession. The program builds on cross-cutting areas of research strength in the School of Science and Engineering, including: novel 21<sup>st</sup> century materials; materials for energy; biomolecular materials; macromolecules; "quantum mechanics to devices"; surfaces, interfaces, and nanostructures; and computation.

Tulane's Engineering Physics program is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET.

## Mission Statement for Engineering Physics

The mission of our program is to provide the highest quality education for students in the principles and applications of Engineering Physics. The excellence of the program is ensured by our department's high regard for teaching, research activities and industrial ties. The program educates students to take leadership roles in industry, academia and government.

## Educational Objectives for Engineering Physics Program

Our Engineering Physics program educates students to become professionals with a blend of in-depth knowledge and skills in mathematics, science, and engineering, enabling them to understand physical systems, research technical questions and pursue opportunities to innovate, design solutions, and solve problems. Our program provides the foundation for graduate study and lifelong learning. Our objective is to prepare graduates who can successfully pursue:

1. Professional careers at all levels in Engineering Physics or other professional pursuits where an engineering or physics background provides a valuable foundation. Examples of the latter are: focused engineering disciplines, medicine, law, and business administration.
2. Advanced studies in Engineering, Physical Sciences, or related fields.

## Student Outcomes for Engineering Physics

Graduates of the Engineering Physics program at Tulane University will attain:

1. an ability to identify, formulate, and solve complex engineering problems by applying principles of engineering, science, and mathematics
2. an ability to apply engineering design to produce solutions that meet specified needs with consideration of public health, safety, and welfare, as well as global, cultural, social, environmental, and economic factors
3. an ability to communicate effectively with a range of audiences
4. an ability to recognize ethical and professional responsibilities in engineering situations and make informed judgments, which must consider the impact of engineering solutions in global, economic, environmental, and societal contexts
5. an ability to function effectively on a team whose members together provide leadership, create a collaborative and inclusive environment, establish goals, plan tasks, and meet objectives
6. an ability to develop and conduct appropriate experimentation, analyze and interpret data, and use engineering judgment to draw conclusions
7. an ability to acquire and apply new knowledge as needed, using appropriate learning strategies

Engineering Physics is a field that provides broad training in physics and mathematics and basic training in engineering and design. The practitioner of engineering physics is involved in the development of new devices and products using sophisticated physical concepts. The engineering physics curriculum educates students to work in areas where technology is changing rapidly and where the boundaries of several traditional engineering disciplines overlap, such as nanomaterials/devices, lasers, plasmas, robotics, materials, medical imaging, superconductors, and semiconductors. The curriculum develops sufficient depth in both engineering and science to produce graduates who are able to relate basic knowledge to practical problems in engineering. The engineering physicist is a person with the training of both an applied physicist and an engineer, the inclination to attack novel as well as routine problems in engineering, and the flexibility to exploit basic knowledge in any branch of science and technology using analytical and experimental skills.

Our engineering physics curriculum places emphasis on:

- basic principles of engineering
- problem solving

- mathematics
- physics
- engineering design
- computer science and engineering
- chemistry
- science and scientific principles
- research
- communications
- multi-disciplinary teamwork
- continuous learning
- leadership
- ethics
- preparation for advanced degrees in engineering and science

The required curriculum for engineering physics is relatively full. Class schedules should be carefully planned. Typical of engineering in the US, some engineering physics majors may take a course overload in some semesters.

### Engineering Minors

Engineering Physics students may complete a minor in a specialized field of engineering in order to add more depth to the broad engineering education offered by the major. Up to 9 credits in an 18-credit minor program may be completed through courses simultaneously counting towards the major. Completing a minor offers additional branding that may help students attract interest in industry after graduation and provides preparation for common graduate engineering programs. Currently available engineering minors include:

- Biomedical Engineering (<https://catalog.tulane.edu/science-engineering/biomedical-engineering/biomedical-engineering-minor/>)
- Civil Engineering - Water Resources and Environmental (<https://catalog.tulane.edu/science-engineering/river-coastal-science-engineering/civil-engineering-water-resources-and-environmental-minor/>)
- Electrical Engineering (<https://catalog.tulane.edu/science-engineering/physics-engineering/electrical-engineering-minor/>)
- Materials Engineering (<https://catalog.tulane.edu/science-engineering/physics-engineering/materials-engineering-minor/>)
- Mechanical Engineering (<https://catalog.tulane.edu/science-engineering/physics-engineering/mechanical-engineering-minor/>)

Additionally, Engineering Physics students are able to complete a certificate in Computational Engineering (<https://catalog.tulane.edu/science-engineering/physics-engineering/computational-engineering-certificate/>) by choosing four engineering and physics electives (12 credits) within the Engineering Physics program from a pre-approved list of computational courses.

### PEP Website

<https://sse.tulane.edu/pep/academics/undergraduate/engineering-physics-program> (<https://sse.tulane.edu/pep/academics/undergraduate/engineering-physics-program/>)

## Requirements

### General Course Requirements for Engineering Physics

The major curriculum consists of the following requirements (91 credits total plus Tulane Core Curriculum requirements):

#### Tulane University's Core Requirements for Graduation

Engineering Physics majors are exempt from the Newcomb-Tulane foreign language requirement. All other Newcomb-Tulane College core requirements must be fulfilled.

Course ID	Title	Credits
<b>Mathematics</b>		
Select four classes to be completed during the first two years of study including the following:		
MATH 2210	Calculus III	4
MATH 2240 or MATH 4240	Intro To Applied Math Ordinary Differential Equations	4
<b>Basic Science First Year of Study</b>		
PHYS 1310	General Physics I	4
PHYS 1320	General Physics II	4

CHEM 1070 & CHEM 1075	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry Lab I	4
<b>Basic Science Second Year of Study</b>		
PHYS 2350	Modern Physics I	3
PHYS 2360	Modern Physics II	3
<b>Introduction to Design <sup>1</sup></b>		
ENGP 2020	Computing Concepts and Applications	4
ENGP 2310	Product and Experimental Design	3
<b>General Engineering Courses</b>		
ENGP 1410	Statics	3
ENGP 2010	Electric Circuits	3
ENGP 2011	Electric Circuits Lab	1
ENGP 2120 or CENG 2120	Engineering Thermodynamics Thermodynamics I	3
ENGP 3120	Materials Science and Engineering	3
<b>Engineering Selected Elective</b>		
Select one of the following:		
ENGP 2430	Mechanics of Materials	3
BMEN 2730 or ENGP 2730	Biomedical Electronics Electronics	4
<b>Advanced Laboratory</b>		
ENGP 3530	Advanced Laboratory I	3
<b>Computation</b>		
Select one of the following:		
ENGP 3170	Computnl Physics & Engr	3
CENG 3230	Numr Meth For Chem Eng	3
MATH 3310	Scientific Computing I	3
plus one additional 3-credit engineering elective for students choosing MATH 3310		
<b>Seminar</b>		
PHYS 3800	Physics Colloquium	1
<b>Contemporary Topics</b>		
Select one of the following:		
PHYS 3150 or PHYS 6150	Intro To Neutron Science Intro To Neutron Science	3
PHYS 3180 or PHYS 6180	Introduction to Feedback Control and Control Theory Introduction to Feedback Control and Control Theory	3
PHYS 3210 or PHYS 6210	Molecular Biophysics & Polymer Physics Molec Biophysics & Polymer Phy	3
PHYS 3230 or PHYS 6230	Quantum Information Science & Engineering Quantum Information Sci & Eng	3
PHYS 3310 or PHYS 6310	Quantum Optics Quantum Optics	3
PHYS 3450 or PHYS 6450	Elementary Particle Physics Elem Particle Physics	3
PHYS 3700 or PHYS 6700	Electronic Properties of Materials Electrnc Prop of Materls	3
PHYS 4470	Intro Quantum Mechanics	3
<b>Classical Topics</b>		
Select one of the following:		
PHYS 3630	Electromagnetic Theory	3
PHYS 3740	Classical Mechanics	3

PHYS 4230	Thermal Physics	3
PHYS 4650	Optics	3
or PHYS 3650	Optics	
<b>Engineering Electives</b>		
Select four of the following:		12
CENG 2110	Matl & Energy Balances	3
CENG 2320	Transport I: Fluids	3
CENG 2500	Intro To Biotechnology	3
CENG 3110	Thermodynamics II	3
CENG 3390	Transport II: Heat and Mass	3
ENGP 2420	Engineering Dynamics	3
ENGP 3130	Introduction to Power Systems	3
ENGP 3140	Digital Logic Systems	3
ENGP 3160	Probabilistic Systems and Signal Processing	3
ENGP 3290	Computational Materials Scienc	3
ENGP 3350	Kinetics of Material Systems	3
ENGP 3360	Structure of Materials	3
ENGP 3370	Processing of Biomaterials	3
ENGP 3380	Materials for Energy	3
ENGP 3390	Synthesis of Nanomaterials	3
ENGP 3560	Photonic Materials & Devices	3
ENGP 3570	Semiconductor Devices	3
ENGP 3600	Nanoscience & Technology	3
ENGP 3620	MicroFab and Nanotech	3
ENGP 3660	Special Topics	1-3
ENGP 3720	Mechanic Behavior of Materials	3
ENGP 3730	Signals and Systems	3
or BMEN 3730	Biomedical Signals and Systems	
ENGP 3760	Thermodynamics of Materials	3
BMEN 3400	Biomaterials & Tissue Engineering	3
BMEN 3440	Biofluid Mechanics	3
BMEN 3650	Biomechanics and Biotransport	3
BMEN 3820	Math Analysis Bio Systms	3
BMEN 3932	Elements of BMEN Design	3
CMPS 3350	Intro to Computer Graphics	3
or other courses as approved by the Faculty Advisor		
<b>Professional Development</b>		
Select one of the following:		
ENGP 3430	Prof Develop Engineers I	3
& ENGP 3440	and Prof Develop Engineers II <sup>2</sup>	
ENGP 3460	Tech Ethics: What is a Better Future?	3
<b>Summer Internship</b>		
Normally done in the summer following the third year of study		0
<b>Team Design Project and Professional Practice <sup>3</sup></b>		
ENGP 4310	Team Design Project & Prf Pr I	3
ENGP 4320	Team Design Project & Prf P II	3
<b>Total Credits Required for Major</b>		<b>91</b>

<sup>1</sup> Typically taken in the second year of study

<sup>2</sup> Normally taken in the junior year

<sup>3</sup> Taken in the fourth year of study

Note:

Many intermediate and advanced courses in the program have prerequisites listed under the Basic Science and Mathematics categories; several of the allowed electives may have additional prerequisites. Many of the required and elective courses may not be offered every year. Students must work closely with the departmental undergraduate advisor to develop an individualized schedule of courses that fits their needs and interests, while satisfying all of the above requirements along with the university's core requirements for graduation.

### ROTC Courses

ROTC courses, if elected, are taken in addition to the normal courses. Please see the Engineering Physics advisor for details.

## Sample Schedule of Classes for Engineering Physics

		Credit Hours
<b>Year 1</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
CHEM 1070 & CHEM 1075	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry Lab I	4
PHYS 1310	General Physics I	4
PHYS 1311	General Physics I Lab	0
MATH 1210	Calculus I	4
ENGL 1010	Writing	4
TIDES Course Credits		1
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
PHYS 1320	General Physics II	4
PHYS 1321	General Physics II Lab	0
MATH 1220	Calculus II	4
ENGP 1410	Statics	3
ENGP 2020	Computing Concepts and Applications	4
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Year 2</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
PHYS 2350	Modern Physics I	3
MATH 2210	Calculus III	4
ENGP 2010	Electric Circuits	3
ENGP 2011	Electric Circuits Lab	1
ENGP 2310	Product and Experimental Design	3
Tier 1 Service Learning		1
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
PHYS 2360	Modern Physics II	3
MATH 2240	Intro To Applied Math	4
ENGP 3120	Materials Science and Engineering	3
Engineering Selected Elective <sup>1</sup>		4
NTC Distribution Elective 1 <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>Year 3</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
ENGP 3430	Prof Develop Engineers I <sup>3</sup>	2
PHYS 3800	Physics Colloquium	1
Classical Physics Elective <sup>4</sup>		3
NTC Distribution Elective 2 <sup>2</sup>		3

Two Engineering Electives <sup>5</sup>		6
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ENGP 2120	Engineering Thermodynamics	3
ENGP 3170	Computnl Physics & Engr	3
ENGP 3530	Advanced Laboratory I	3
ENGP 3440	Prof Develop Engineers II <sup>3</sup>	1
Engineering Elective <sup>6</sup>		3
NTC Distribution Elective 3 <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Year 4</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
ENGP 4310	Team Design Project & Prf Pr I	3
Engineering Elective <sup>7</sup>		3
NTC Distribution Elective 4 <sup>2</sup>		3
General Elective		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ENGP 4320	Team Design Project & Prf P II	3
Contemporary Physics Elective <sup>8</sup>		3
NTC Distribution Elective 5 <sup>2</sup>		3
Tier 2 Service Learning		1
General Elective		4
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>121</b>

<sup>1</sup> Choose either BMEN 2730 Biomedical Electronics (4 c.h.) (spring class) or ENGP 2430 Mechanics of Materials (3 c.h.) (fall class).

<sup>2</sup> Students must complete 2 courses (6 credits) in Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2 courses (6 credits) in Textual and Historical Perspectives, and 1 course (3 credits) in Aesthetics and the Creative Arts to satisfy the Newcomb-Tulane College Distribution requirements. Learn more about the Newcomb-Tulane College Core Curriculum here (<https://catalog.tulane.edu/newcomb-tulane/#corecurriculumtext>).

<sup>3</sup> Or take ENGP 3460 (3 credits) in place of the ENGP 3430+ENGP 3440 sequence.

<sup>4</sup> e.g., PHYS 3630 Electromagnetic Theory (3 c.h.)

<sup>5</sup> e.g., BMEN 3440 Biofluid Mechanics (3 c.h.), ENGP 2420 Engineering Dynamics (3 c.h.)

<sup>6</sup> e.g., ENGP 3620 MicroFab and Nanotech (3 c.h.)

<sup>7</sup> e.g., ENGP 3360 Structure of Materials (3 c.h.)

<sup>8</sup> e.g., PHYS 4470 Intro Quantum Mechanics (3 c.h.)

**Program String & Field of Study:** SEBS\_UG, ENGP

## Contact

For more information, contact the School of Science and Engineering (<https://sse.tulane.edu/pep/about/contact/>).