What YOU will learn:
As a physics major at Nebraska, you will study matter and energy and their interactions. Physics is not just a body of knowledge — it is a set of approaches that will allow you to solve all kinds of problems. Physics seeks to describe the most basic features of a system and the underlying general rules that govern them. These rules are powerful tools for understanding that system and similar ones that you may encounter later.

The core curriculum includes courses in physics, math and chemistry; as well as four tracks to choose from based on your interest:

- Professional Track for graduate study or employment in physics or a related scientific or engineering discipline
- Optics and Lasers Track for graduate study or employment in optical or laser physics or related engineering disciplines
- Materials Physics Track for graduate study or employment in materials physics or related discipline
- Computational Physics Track for graduate study or employment in computational physics or related disciplines.

Career opportunities YOU will have:
Because the study of physics develops such strong analytical skills, physicists go into a wide variety of careers such as engineering, law, medicine, computer science and information technology, optical and laser science, and materials science. Many physicists work in government or industrial laboratories, but some start their own businesses. Recent Nebraska graduates include:

- Applications Programmer, Holland Computing Center
- Astronomical Instrument Technician, University of Texas
- Lead Innovator, Nanonation
- Process Engineer, Garmin
- Researcher, University of Nebraska

Why NEBRASKA for Physics?
The Department of Physics and Astronomy at UNL features state-of-the-art research and teaching facilities. The Extreme Light Laboratory houses Diocles, one of the most powerful lasers in the world. At the on-campus Student Observatory and Behlen Observatory in Mead, Nebraska, you can study astrophysical phenomena such as quasars and pulsating stars.

At Nebraska you can study nanoscale magnetic materials, perform experiments to “stop” light, research matter waves and unusual behavior of chiral molecules, and study the fundamental constituents of the matter that makes up our universe at some of the world’s highest-energy particle accelerator laboratories.

Great stories start HERE!
“Think about how far we have come in the last 100 years alone. You can attribute most of those technological advancements to physics. Having a basic understanding of the universe at its most basic level will open windows that were previously thought to be walls.”

- Erik
## COURSE NAME | HOURS
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PHYS 201: Modern Topics in Physics & Astronomy | 1
PHYS 221: General Physics I Lab (CDR BL) | 1
Language Requirement - 201 Level (CDR E) | 3
**Total Hours** | 14

## COURSE NAME | HOURS
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PHYS 211: General Physics I (CDR B) | 4
PHYS 212: General Physics II (ACE 4) | 4
ACE 1 | 3
**Total Hours** | 15

## COURSE NAME | HOURS
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PHYS 206: Analytic Geometry & Calculus III | 4
PHYS 223: General Physics III Lab | 1
CHEM 113: Fundamentals of Chemistry I | 4
CDR A | 3
**Total Hours** | 16

## COURSE NAME | HOURS
--- | ---
PHYS 212: General Physics II (ACE 4) | 4
PHYS 311: Mechanics | 3
ACE 2 | 3
ACE 5 | 3
**Total Hours** | 15

## COURSE NAME | HOURS
--- | ---
PHYS 431: Thermal Physics | 3
Physics Track Requirement | 3
ACE 6 | 3
CDR C | 3
**Total Hours** | 15

## COURSE NAME | HOURS
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PHYS 451: Electromagnetic Theory | 3
PHYS 461: Quantum Mechanics | 3
Physics Track Requirement | 3
ACE 8 | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Pre-Professional | 3
**Total Hours** | 15

## COURSE NAME | HOURS
--- | ---
Physics Track Requirement | 3
Physics Track Requirement | 3
ACE 9 | 3
CDR D | 3
**Total Hours** | 15

## COURSE NAME | HOURS
--- | ---
Physics Track Elective (ACE 10) | 3
Physics Track Elective | 3
ACE 7 | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Pre-Professional | 3
**Total Hours** | 15

DISCLAIMER: This document represents a sample 4-year plan for degree completion with a major of interest in the College of Arts and Sciences. Actual course selection and sequence may vary and should be discussed individually with an Academic Adviser at the college and department level.