

PHYSICS MAJOR

Program Tracking Sheet

Effective for students entering AY 2025-2026

Name:	Class Year:
Advisor:	2 nd Major:

NOTES: Minimum total academic credit = 15 units

Residency Req.: Min. of 8 units must be completed at WPI

HUMANITIES AND ARTS (2 units)

All 5 HUA courses must be completed before beginning the Inquiry Seminar or Practicum. The Humanities and Arts Department will accept a maximum of 1/3 unit of AP credit towards the Humanities and Arts requirement.

Depth Component

Students must complete at least three thematically-related courses prior to the culminating Inquiry Seminar or Practicum in the same thematic area. At least one of the three courses should be at the 2000-level or above.

	Course	Term	Grade	Units
1				1/3
2				1/3
3				1/3
4	HU 3900 or HU 3910			1/3

Breadth Component

Students must take at least one course outside the grouping in which they complete their depth component. To identify breadth, courses are grouped in the following manner.

- i. art/art history, drama/theatre, and music (AR, TH, MU);
- ii. modern languages (AB, CN, ISE, GN, SP);
- iii. literature and writing rhetoric (EN, WR);
- iv. history, humanities, and international and global studies (HI, HU, INTL);
- v. philosophy and religion (PY, RE).

Exception: May take all six courses in a modern language.

5				1/3
Humanities Elective				
6				1/3

WELLNESS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (4 WPE classes = 1/3 unit)

7				1/12
				1/12
				1/12
				1/12

SOCIAL SCIENCE (2/3 unit) ECON, ENV, GOV, PSY, SD, SOC, SS, STS, DEV, and ID2050

8				1/3
9				1/3

THE INTERACTIVE QUALIFYING PROJECT (1 unit)

10				1/3
11				1/3
12				1/3

FREE ELECTIVES (1 unit)

13				1/3
14				1/3
15				1/3

MATHEMATICS (3 units)

Mathematics must include at least 2/3 unit of mathematics at the level of MA 3000 or higher

16				1/3
17				1/3
18				1/3
19				1/3
20				1/3
21				1/3
22				1/3
23	MA 3000 or higher:			1/3
24	MA 3000 or higher:			1/3

PHYSICS (5 units, includes MQP) - see Note below

ES 3001 and CH 3510 count as physics courses

25	PH 1110/1111 (Mechanics)*			1/3
26	PH 1120/1121 (E&M)*			1/3
27	PH 1130 (Modern Physics)*			1/3
28	PH 1140 (Oscillations and Waves)*			1/3
29	Mechanics:			1/3
30	Electromagnetism:			1/3
31	Experimental Physics:			1/3
32	Quantum Mechanics:			1/3
33	Thermal and statistical physics #:			1/3
34				1/3
35				1/3
36				1/3

MAJOR QUALIFYING PROJECT (1 unit)

37				1/3
38				1/3
39				1/3

OTHER COURSES (2 units)

To be selected from mathematics, science, engineering, computer science, and business. Other courses need approval.

40				1/3
41				1/3
42				1/3
43				1/3
44				1/3
45				1/3

* These courses are not required, but the background is essential to other courses, so they are highly recommended.

Note: Physics Courses must include at least 1/3 unit from each of the five principal areas of physics: mechanics, experimental physics, electromagnetism, quantum mechanics, and thermal statistical physics.

This core distribution requirement is satisfied by successfully completing at least one course from each of the following five sets of courses: PH 2201 or 2202 (mechanics); PH 2651 or 2601 (experimental physics); PH 2301 or 3301 (electromagnetism); PH 3401 or 3402 (quantum mechanics); ES 3001, CH 3510, PH 2101 or PH 3206 (thermal and statistical physics); or other courses approved by the department Program Review Committee following petition by the student. In many cases, students will complete more than one course in each principle area.



WPI

Office of
Academic
Advising

4-year Plan Template

Name:	Class Year:
Advisor(s):	Major(s)/Minor(s):

Year 1					
	A-term	B-term	C-term	D-term	E-term (optional)
Course 1					
Course 2					
Course 3					
Course 4 (optional)					

Notes:

Year 2					
	A-term	B-term	C-term	D-term	E-term (optional)
Course 1					
Course 2					
Course 3					
Course 4 (optional)					

Notes:

Year 3					
	A-term	B-term	C-term	D-term	E-term (optional)
Course 1					
Course 2					
Course 3					
Course 4 (optional)					

Notes:

Year 4					
	A-term	B-term	C-term	D-term	E-term (optional)
Course 1					
Course 2					
Course 3					
Course 4 (optional)					

Notes: