CAREER CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
The CORNERSTONE of your FUTURE

What can I do with a Major in…

Major: Physics

O*net Outlook Link to Career Titles

Physics Teachers, Postsecondary

Atmospheric, Earth, Marine, and Space Sciences Teachers, Postsecondary

Physicists

Occupational Health and Safety Specialists InDemand

Physician Assistants InDemand

Engineering Teachers, Postsecondary

Physical Therapists InDemand

Nuclear Monitoring Technicians

Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other

Mathematical Science Teachers, Postsecondary

Physicians and Surgeons, All Other InDemand

Geographers

Medical Assistants InDemand

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Learned with this Degree:

Knowledge:
Physics
Mathematics
English Language
Engineering and Technology
Communications and Media
Design
Production and Processing

Skills:
Science
Mathematics
Critical Thinking
Reading Comprehension
Writing
Complex problem solving
Develop Research Models
Establish Hypotheses
Gather and Analyze Data
Establish Experimental Design

Abilities:
Number Facility

Written & Oral Comprehension and Expression
Deductive and Inductive Reasoning
Mathematical Reasoning
Fluency of Ideas
Information Ordering

Links:
Job Search Websites:
PhysLink
Physics Web
Physics Jobs
American Physical Society
Physics and Astronomy Online

Associations:
Institute of Physics
American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Institute of Physics
Physics Web
American Astronomical Society
The Geophysical Union

Examples of Employers Recruiting UNT Physics Majors:

DRS Infrared Technologies
Fairfield Industries
NYC Teaching Fellows
Bowie ISD
Environmental Research Technologies
HealthMarkets Lead Marketing Group
Huther and Associates Inc.
Mabank ISD
MicroChem Laboratory, Inc.
MOD Lab 1
NCH Corporation
Oakland Unified School District
Plano ISD
Poolville Junior High School
San Antonio ISD
Sanger ISD
Santa Fe Institute
Tutor.com
UTSW Medical Center
Youth Learning Institute

Majoring in Physics:

As a physics major, you will study laws of mechanics and how objects move; thermal physics, or properties of heat and energy; principles of electricity and magnetism; mathematical methods of physics; physics of the atom and nucleus; quantum mechanics; and statistical physics. You may take an electronics course in which you will build modern digital and analog circuits. If you plan to become a researcher in physics, you may want to take additional courses in an area of specialization — electronics, nuclear physics, optics or quantum mechanics.

Faculty members in the Department of Physics are dedicated teachers and researchers. Two faculty members have been named Regents Professors for outstanding research and teaching. Regents Professors devote at least half of their teaching load to introductory-level courses. Two faculty members have received a President's Council University Teaching Award. UNT graduates have ranked physics faculty members among the top 20 percent of UNT's instructors.

Many faculty members are known as experts in their fields. Some of their areas of expertise are determining the age of archaeological artifacts, studying electronic properties of artificially structured material and analyzing nuclear reactions. Faculty members have written several books and hundreds of journal articles about physics.

UNT's Society of Physics Students is one of the most active student chapters in Texas. The group often goes on field trips and invites guest speakers to meetings. Students in the society sponsor the Physics Olympics each spring for high school students in the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

Careers Potential:

Physics is the study of the structure and interaction of matter and energy, and it plays a role in all aspects of our daily lives. Physics can be used to explain everything from how automobile airbags inflate to the ways electrons or black holes behave.

By majoring in physics at the University of North Texas, you can prepare for a career with aerospace and automobile manufacturers, computer software companies, electrical equipment manufacturers, engineering services firms, and independent research and development laboratories. The armed forces, the departments of Defense and Commerce, national laboratories and NASA employ physics graduates in research careers.

You may teach high school physics or work for a manufacturer of technical equipment. A major in physics also can prepare you for medical school or a graduate program in engineering. A bachelor's degree in physics will qualify you for some beginning research and development jobs, but you will need a master's and possibly a doctoral degree for most advanced research or university teaching positions.

UNT's Career Center can help you prepare to pursue your career. The center has information about jobs and employers, and the staff can help you with resume and letter writing, job search strategies and interview preparation.