Minor in Physics

Why minor in Physics?
Physics is the most fundamental science and underlies our understanding of nearly all areas of science and technology. As such, there are many areas where additional coursework in physics can better prepare engineers, chemists, biologists, geologists, mathematicians, or computer scientists for the issues they encounter in the “real world.” The minor program in physics includes a strong core background, but also provides flexibility to allow students to pick the coursework that fits their individual needs.

Curriculum:
Students must complete at least 21 units of Physics. A cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required in these courses.

Core Courses (15 units)
- PHYS 011A General Physics: Mechanics
- PHYS 011B General Physics: Heat, Light, and Sound
- PHYS 011C General Physics: Electricity and Magnetism, Modern Physics
- PHYS 106 Intro to Modern Physics

Elective Courses (6 units minimum)
- PHYS 105 Mathematical Methods
- PHYS 110 Classical Mechanics
- PHYS 115 Electronics and Instrumentation
- PHYS 124 Thermodynamics and Statistical Mech.
- PHYS 130 Acoustics
- PHYS 135 Electricity and Magnetism
- PHYS 136 Electrodynamics
- PHYS 142 Applied Solid State
- PHYS 145 Optics
- PHYS 150 Quantum Mechanics
- PHYS 151 Advanced Modern Physics
- PHYS 162 Scientific Computing I
- PHYS 175 Advanced Physics Laboratory

Facilities:
- Anechoic Chamber
- Instrumentation and Electronics Laboratory
- Optics Lab
- Scientific Machine Shop
- Computational Lab
- Astronomical Research Lab

Faculty:
Fourteen full-time faculty members with backgrounds in atomic and molecular physics, nuclear physics, high energy physics, astronomy, instrumentation, computational physics, and physics education research teach classes at all levels – from “physics for poets” to quantum mechanics.

Outside the Classroom
- Society of Physics Students
- Stockroom and Grading Jobs
- Tutoring Center
- Student Research