2004-2006 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2004-2006 academic years, including the Summer Semester 2005, the Fall Semester 2005 and the Winter Semester 2006.

For your convenience the Graduate Calendar is available in PDF format.

If you wish to link to the Graduate Calendar please refer to the Linking Guidelines.

The University is a full member of:

- The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

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Disclaimer

The Office of Graduate Program Services has attempted to ensure the accuracy of this on-line Graduate Calendar. However, the publication of information in this document does not bind the university to the provision of courses, programs, schedules of studies, fees, or facilities as listed herein.

Limitations

The University of Guelph reserves the right to change without notice any information contained in this calendar, including any rule or regulation pertaining to the standards for admission to, the requirements for the continuation of study in, and the requirements for the granting of degrees or diplomas in any or all of its programs.

The university will not be liable for any interruption in, or cancellation of, any academic activities as set forth in this calendar and related information where such interruption is caused by fire, strike, lock-out, inability to procure materials or trades, restrictive laws or governmental regulations, actions taken by the faculty, staff or students of the university or by others, civil unrest or disobedience, or any other cause of any kind beyond the reasonable control of the university.

The University of Guelph reaffirms section 1 of the Ontario Human Rights Code, 1981, which prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, handicap, age, marital status or family status.

The university encourages applications from women, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and members of other under-represented groups.

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Physics

The Departments of Physics at the Universities of Guelph and Waterloo offer a joint program leading to MSc and PhD degrees. The Guelph-Waterloo Physics Institute consists of members from both university departments and is administered by a joint co-ordinating committee. Students interested in graduate work in physics at either university should send applications for admission to the director of the Institute. Students are ultimately registered at the university at which their advisor is located. A student comes under the general regulations of the university at which he or she is registered, and the degree is granted by that university.

Administrative Staff

Graduate teaching and research in physics at the University of Guelph are operated through the Guelph-Waterloo Physics Institute.

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Achim Kempf
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John Vanderkooy
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Marek Wartak
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David Yevick
AB Harvard, MA, PhD Princeton, Docuent Lund - Professor

MSc Program

The MSc programs provide for emphasis on astrophysics and gravitation, atomic, molecular and optical physics, biophysics, chemical physics, condensed matter and material physics, industrial and applied physics, subatomic physics, and quantum computing.

Three options are available for the MSc degree:

- A research-based option in which the student is required to complete four one-semester courses (at least 2.0 course credits) and a thesis.
- A course work option in which the student is required to complete eight one-semester courses (at least 4.0 course credits), one of which must be a research project course that includes a report.
- A co-operative option in which the student spends two semesters working in a government or industrial laboratory. The student is required to complete four one-semester courses (at least 2.0 course credits) and a thesis.

Admission Requirements

Application for admission should be made as early as possible on forms obtained from the director of the Guelph-Waterloo Physics Institute, available from the web-site http://gwp.on.ca/

The admission requirements are as follows:

- An honours BSc degree in physics (or equivalent) with at least a B standing (75%) from a recognized university.
- Three letters of reference, two of which normally are from academic sources.
- Proof of competency in English (for applicants whose prior education was in a language other than English). See the University regulations on English Language Proficiency Certification.
- GRE Physics Subject Test score for all applicants who have completed their post-secondary education outside of Canada.

Successful applicants are encouraged to start their graduate studies in May or September, but a January starting date is possible. Academic transcripts and other supporting documents should be forwarded as soon as they become available. Admission to the program cannot be granted until all requirements have been met and all documents submitted.

Applications are considered by the Admissions Committee. It should be noted that students will normally be admitted only if an advisor can be found to oversee their research. Since there are a limited number of openings each year, applicants are advised to state alternative areas of research on the preference form supplied (see web-site http://gwp.on.ca/)..

MSc Co-operative Option

In addition to the admission requirements described above, admission to the co-op option is restricted to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

Degree Requirements

Research-Based MSc Option

Four one-term courses (at least 2.0 course credits) acceptable for graduate credit and a thesis based on original research are required. The subject of research must be approved by the candidate's advisory committee and the thesis must be read and approved by the advisory committee. One of the four courses may be an undergraduate course approved by the student's advisory committee and the graduate co-ordinator. If it is a physics course, it must be at the fourth-year level.

For all students (except those in biophysics**) the four courses must include at least one of Quantum Mechanics 1 (PHYS*7010), Statistical Physics 1 (PHYS*7040) and Electromagnetic Theory (PHYS*7060). A MSc student in this program who shows a particular aptitude for research and has a superior record in fourth-year undergraduate and three one-term graduate courses may be permitted, upon recommendation of the advisor and with the approval of the co-ordinating committee, to transfer into the PhD program without completing an MSc thesis.

MSc Co-operative Option

Students enter the co-op MSc program in September. The first term of the program is spent taking two courses (for all except those in biophysics **, one of these courses must be chosen from PHYS*7010, PHYS*7040 and PHYS*7060) and performing the duties of a regular teaching assistant. During this term, the student will discuss work-term prospects with the Guelph and Waterloo personnel responsible for co-op activities and conduct interviews with potential employers. Satisfactory performance in this phase of the program allows the student to spend the next two terms working in an industrial or government laboratory. Upon completion of the work terms, the student must submit a work report as discussed below.

The student must complete a minimum of two additional graduate courses and complete a research project under the supervision of a faculty member in accordance with the regular thesis requirements of the MSc degree program, as outlined by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

**Exception: In place of the core physics course biophysics students may choose any course approved by the student's advisory committee and the graduate co-ordinator.

Course-Based MSc Option

Eight one-term courses acceptable for graduate credit, including a project course summarized in a report, are required. The project must be approved by the candidate's advisor and the report read and approved by the advisor and one other faculty member. These courses must include the core courses Quantum Mechanics 1 (PHYS*7010), Statistical Physics 1 (PHYS*7040,) and Electromagnetic Theory (PHYS*7060). [Exception: biophysics students taking the course-based MSc option are required to take only one of the core courses PHYS*7010, PHYS*7040 and PHYS*7060.] This program is recommended for those planning careers requiring a broad non-specialized knowledge of physics (for example, high school teaching).

PhD Program

Two options are available for the PhD degree:

- A research-based option in which the student is required to complete four one-semester courses (2.0 credits) and a thesis.
- A co-operative option in which the student spends two semesters working in a government or industrial laboratory. The student is required to complete four one-semester courses (2.0 credits) and a thesis.

Admission Requirements

A MSc degree in physics from an approved university or college with at least a B standing (75%) is normally required for entrance into the PhD program. Other requirements are the same as those described above for the MSc program (see web-site http://gwp.on.ca/).

PhD Co-operative Option

In addition to the admission requirements described above, admisison to the co-op option is restricted to Canadian citizens or permanent residents.

Degree Requirements

Four one-term courses not including any already taken for MSc credit are required; courses taken during the MSc program and in excess of those required will, however, be allowed for PhD credit. By the end of the first year of the program, all three of Quantum Mechanics 1 (PHYS*7010), Statistical Physics 1 (PHYS*7040) and Electromagnetic Theory (PHYS*7060) should be completed. (Exception: Biophysics students must have taken at least one of Quantum Mechanics 1 (PHYS*7010), Statistical Physics 1 (PHYS*7040), and Electromagnetic Theory (PHYS*7060) by the completion of the first year of the PhD program.) One of the required courses may be an undergraduate course outside the student's main field of study and must be approved by the student's advisory committee and the graduate co-ordinator. No undergraduate course in physics may be taken for credit.

After two or three terms in the program, PhD candidates are required to pass a qualifying examination. This is an oral examination of approximately two hours' duration before a committee that includes representation from the student's advisory committee. It is designed to test the student's knowledge of the fundamentals and applications of physics related to the thesis topic. PhD students must meet their advisory committee members at least once a year to present a written and oral report on their progress. Candidates must present a thesis embodying the results of original research conducted by them on an advanced topic. The thesis is defended before a committee which may also examine the student's knowledge of related material.

PhD Co-operative Option

Students normally enter the co-op PhD program in September, following completion of their MSc degree. The student first spends one or two academic terms on campus, taking a minimum of two courses per term and performing the regular duties of a teaching assistant. During this time, the student will discuss work term prospects with the Guelph and Waterloo personnel responsible for co-op activities and conduct interviews with potential employers. After satisfactory performance in the academic term(s), the student spends a full year in an industrial or government laboratory.

Students must complete all three of the core courses PHYS*7010, PHYS*7040 and PHYS*7060 by the end of their first two academic terms in the program. (Exception: Biophysics students must at least one of the three core courses.) A total of four graduate courses (2.0 credits) are required (excluding those already taken for MSc credit).

The student is required to pass a qualifying examination and complete, under the supervision of a faculty member, a research project on an advanced topic. A thesis embodying the results of original research conducted by the student must be presented and defended before a committee.

Interdepartmental Programs

Biophysics Interdepartmental Group

The Department of Physics participates in the MSc/PhD programs in biophysics. Professors Brown, Davis, Dutcher, Gray, Jeffrey, Kycia and Ladizhansky are members of the Biophysics Interdepartmental Group (BIG). These faculty members' research and teaching expertise includes aspects of biophysics; they may serve as advisors for MSc and PhD students in biophysics. Please consult the Biophysics listing for a detailed description of the graduate programs offered by the Biophysics Interdepartmental Group.

Courses

* Courses offered annually. Other courses are offered on an alternate year basis and as requested.

Basic Group

PHYS*7010 Quantum Mechanics I * U [0.50]

Review of formalism of nonrelativistic quantum mechanics including symmetries and invariance. Approximation methods and scattering theory. Elementary quantum theory of radiation. Introduction to one-particle relativistic wave equations.

PHYS*7020 Quantum Mechanics II U [0.50]

Concepts of relativistic quantum mechanics, elementary quantum field theory, and Feynman diagrams. Application to many-particle systems.

Prerequisite(s): 7010 or equivalent

PHYS*7040 Statistical Physics I* U [0.50]

Statistical basis of thermodynamics; microcanonical, canonical and grand canonical ensembles; quantum statistical mechanics, theory of the density matrix; fluctuations, noise, irreversible thermodynamics; transport theory; application to gases, liquids, solids.

PHYS*7050 Statistical Physics II U [0.50]

Phase transitions. Fluctuation phenomena. Kubo's theory of time correlation functions for transport and spectral properties; applications selected from a variety of topics including linearized hydrodynamics of normal and superfluids, molecular liquids, liquid crystals, surface phenomena, theory of the dielectric constant, etc.

Prerequisite(s): PHYS*7040 or equivalent.

PHYS*7060 Electromagnetic Theory * U [0.50]

Solutions to Maxwell's equations; radiation theory, normal modes; multipole expansion; Kirchhoff's diffraction theory; radiating point charge; optical theorem. Special relativity; transformation laws for the electromagnetic field; line broadening. Dispersion; Kramers-Kronig relations. Magnetohydrodynamics and plasmas.

PHYS*7080 Applications of Group Theory U [0.50]

Introduction to group theory; symmetry, the group concept, representation theory, character theory. Applications to molecular vibrations, the solid state, quantum mechanics and crystal field theory.

PHYS*7110 Scattering Theory U [0.50]

Review of potential theory of scattering. Applications chosen from elastic- and inelastic-neutron X-ray, light, charged-particle, and atomic and molecular beam scattering.

Subatomic and Nuclear

PHYS*7030 Quantum Field Theory U [0.50]

Review of relativistic quantum mechanics and classical field theory. Quantization of free quantum fields (the particle interpretation of field quants). Canonical quantization of interacting fields (Feynman rules). Application of the formalism of interacting quantum fields to lowest-order quantum electrodynamic processes. Radiative corrections and renormalization.

Prerequisite(s): PHYS*7010 or equivalent.

PHYS*7090 Green's Function Method U [0.50]

Review of essential quantum field theory. Zero and finite temperature. Green's functions. Applications.

PHYS*7150 Nuclear Physics U [0.50]

Static properties of nuclei; alpha, beta, gamma decay; two-body systems; nuclear forces; nuclear reactions; single-particle models for spherical and deformed nuclei; shell, collective, interacting boson models.

PHYS*7170 Intermediate and High Energy Physics U [0.50]

Strong, electromagnetic and weak interactions. Isospin, strangeness, conservation laws and symmetry principles. Leptons, hadrons, quarks and their classification, formation, interactions and decay.

PHYS*7670 Introduction to Quantum Information Processing F [0.50]

Quantum superposition, interference, and entanglement. Postulates of Quantum Mechanics. Quantum computational complexity. Quantum Algorithms. Quantum communication and cryptography. Quantum error correction. Implementations.

Astronomy and Astrophysics

PHYS*7800 Galactic Structure U [0.50]

Introduction to statistical theory and distribution laws. Statistical theory of the galactic system. Stellar motions in the solar vicinity. Galactic rotation. Space distribution of stars and their relation to the galaxy. Distribution of various galactic objects. Application to extra-galactic systems.

PHYS*7810 Astrophysics U [0.50]

The fundamental astronomical data: techniques to obtain it and the shortcomings present. The classification systems. Wide- and narrow-band photometric systems. The intrinsic properties of stars: colours, luminosities, masses, radii, temperatures. Variable stars. Distance indicators. Interstellar reddening. Related topics.

PHYS*7840 Advanced General Relativity W [0.50]

Review of elementary general relativity. Timelike and null geodesic congruences. Hypersurfaces and junction conditions. Lagrangian and Hamiltonian formulations of general relativity. Mass and angular momentum of a gravitating body. The laws of black-hole mechanics.

PHYS*7850 Quantum Field Theory for Cosmology U [0.50]

Introduction to scalar field theory and its canonical quantization in flat and curved spacetimes. The flat space effects of Casimir and Unruh. Quantum fluctuations of scalar fields and of the metric on curved space-times and application to inflationary cosmology. Hawking radiation.

Prerequisite(s): PHYS*7010

PHYS*7860 General Relativity for Cosmology U [0.50]

Introduction to the differential geometry of Lorentzian manifolds. The principles of general relativity. Causal structure and cosmological singularities. Cosmological space-times with Killing vector fields. Friedmann-Lemaitre cosmologies, scalar vector and tensor perturbations in the linear and nonlinear regimes. De Sitter space-times and inflationary models.

PHYS*7870 Cosmology U [0.50]

Friedmann-Robertson-Walker metric and dynamics; big bang thermodynamics; nucelosynthesis; recombination; perturbation theory and structure formation; anisotropies in the Cosmic Microwave Background; statistics of cosmological density and velocity fields; galaxy formation; inflation.

PHYS*7880 Selected Topics in Astronomy U [0.50]

Offered on demand

Atomic and Molecular

PHYS*7100 Atomic Physics U [0.50]

Emphasis on atomic structure and spectroscopy. Review of angular momentum, rotations, Wigner-Eckart theorem, n-j symbols. Energy levels in complex atoms, Hartree-Fock theory, radiative-transitions and inner-shell processes. Further topics selected with class interest in mind, at least one of which is to be taken from current literature.

PHYS*7130 Molecular Physics U [0.50]

Angular momentum and the rotation of molecules; introduction to group theory with application to molecular vibrations; principles of molecular spectroscopy; spectra of isolated molecules; intermolecular interactions and their effects on molecular spectra; selected additional topics (e.g., electronic structure of molecules, experimental spectroscopic techniques, neutron scattering, correlation functions, collision induced absorption, extension of group theory to molecular crystals, normal co-ordinate analysis, etc.).

Condensed Matter (Including Chemical Physics, and Conductivity and Superconductivity)

PHYS*7200 Liquid State Physics U [0.50]

Physical properties of atomic liquids; distribution functions and equilibrium properties, elementary perturbation theories and integral equation theories; simple metals, simple computer simulation; viral expansions and thermodynamic derivatives of g(r); experimental determination of g(r).

PHYS*7310 Solid State Physics I U [0.50]

Phonons, electron states, electron-electron interaction, electron-ion interaction, static properties of solids.

PHYS*7320 Solid State Physics II U [0.50]

Transport properties; optical properties; magnetism; superconductivity; disordered systems.

PHYS*7330 Selected Topics in Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics U [0.50]

PHYS*7350 Photoconductivity and Luminescence U [0.50]

Electron processes in crystals, photoconductive processes. Electrode effects, imperfection and energy band transitions, scattering traps and trapping effects. Recombination kinetics, luminescence. Experimental methods and analysis.

PHYS*7360 Optical Properties of Semiconductors U [0.50]

Reflection and refraction of electromagnetic waves at dielectric and conducting interfaces. Dispersion, absorption processes, photo effects, magneto-optical effects, emission of radiation.

PHYS*7650 Quantum Theory of Solid Surfaces U [0.50]

Brief historical review. Molecular orbital approach to surface and chemisorption states. Use of Kronig-Penny, Mathieu potential and Nearly-Free-Electron models. Crystal composition, next-nearest-neighbour interactions, sp- hybridization and applied-field effects on surface states will be discussed.

Biophysics

PHYS*7510 Cellular Biophysics U [0.50]

The physics of cellular structure and function; membrane theories, diffusion and active transport, bioelectric phenomena; intracellular motion, thermodynamics; selected topics of current interest and seminar.

PHYS*7520 Molecular Biophysics U [0.50]

Physical methods of determining macromolecular structure: energetics, intramolecular and intermolecular forces, with application to lamellar structures, information storage, DNA and RNA, recognition and rejection of foreign molecules.

PHYS*7530 Radiation Biophysics U [0.50]

Physical properties and biological effects of different kinds of radiation: action of radiation on various cellular constituents: target theory, genetic effects, repair of radiation damage, physics of radiology and radiotherapy, isotropic tracers.

PHYS*7540 Selected Topics in Experimental Biophysics U [0.50]

Offered on demand

PHYS*7550 Biophysics of Organ Systems U [0.50]

Specialized cells and organs; the nerve impulse and its propagation, muscle contraction, sensory transducers, the central nervous system; haemodynamics, the red-blood corpuscle, homeostasis; selected topics of current interest, and seminar.

PHYS*7570 Special Topics in Biophysics U [0.50]

Offered on demand

PHYS*8900 Interuniversity Graduate Course in Biophysics U [0.50]

This graduate course is offered using the combined biophysical resources of the Universities of Brock, Guelph, McMaster and Waterloo. Three topics constitute the equivalent of a one-semester 3 hr./week graduate course. Information about the course and the selection of individual topics can be obtained from the departmental course co-ordinator. Registration and credit will occur in the semester of the last module.

Applied Physics (including Technical Methods)

PHYS*7410 Electron Microscopy and Electron Diffraction U [0.50]

Introduction to electron optics and the electron microscope; kinematical and dynamical theories of electron diffraction by perfect crystals and by crystals containing lattice imperfections, limited-area electron diffraction, dark- field microscopy, interpretation of electron-diffraction patterns and diffraction-contrast effects in electron microscope images, selected experimental methods in electron microscopy.

PHYS*7420 Basic Theory of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance * U [0.50]

Quantum mechanics of spins in magnetic field; Bloch equations; NMR apparatus; the various nuclear-spin interactions; spin temperature; density matrix; spin-lattice relaxation; double resonance.

PHYS*7450 Selected Topics in Experimental Physics * U [0.50]

A modular course in which each module deals with an established technique of experimental physics. Four modules will be offered during the winter and spring semesters, but registration and credit will be in the spring semester. Typical topics are neutron diffraction, light scattering, acoustics, molecular beams, NMR, surface analysis, etc.

PHYS*7460 Nonlinear Optics U [0.50]

Classical and Quantum Mechanical descriptions of nonlinear susceptibility, nonlinear wave propogation, nonlinear effects such as Peckel's and Kerr effects, harmonic generation, phase conjugation and stimulated scattering processes.

PHYS*7470 Optical Electronics U [0.50]

Optoelectronic component fabrication, light propogation in linear and nonlinear media, optical fiber properties, electro-optic and acousto-optic modulation, spontaneous and stimulated emission, semiconductor lasers and detectors, nose effects in fiber systems.

PHYS*7480 Microprocessors in the Physics Laboratory U [0.50]

Interfacing and programming of microprocessors for applications in physics, including signal averaging, auto- and cross-correlation analysis, multichannel spectrum analysis, and Fourier transformation. Consideration of hardware versus software methods for optimization of speed and system size.

Special Courses (offered on demand only)

PHYS*7120 Selected Topics in Theoretical Physics U [0.50]

PHYS*7710 Special Lecture and Reading Course U [0.50]

PHYS*7720 Selected Seminar and Module Course (for inter-departmental students) U [0.50]

PHYS*7730 Special Topics in Physics U [0.50]

PHYS*7750 Interinstitution Exchange U [0.50]

At the director's discretion, a PhD student may receive course credit for a term of specialized studies at another institution. Formal evaluation is required.

PHYS*7970 MSc Project U [1.00]

Study of a selected topic in physics presented in the form of a written report. For students whose MSc program consists entirely of courses