

Physics and Engineering Physics

Why NMSU?



NMSU is a research university with 13,000 undergraduate students, where our majors find personal attention in the classroom and a sense of community. Since NMSU offers 80+ undergraduate major degrees you will have great opportunities to follow your interests outside of physics. From pursuing a second major in another discipline to just taking courses for fun, you have ample choices here on campus. Best of all, NMSU is affordable! NMSU has a variety of programs to help many students financially, ranging from merit scholarship opportunities to need-based financial aid packages.

The Department of Physics

In the department you will find a welcoming atmosphere and a diverse group of students. Almost all classes for majors have fewer than 30 students, allowing you to learn in a personal and cooperative environment and receive individual attention from your professors. Funded by national grants (such as NSF, DOE), our research programs are broad, spanning material science, nuclear and particle physics, geophysics and physics education. Some of this research is done at national laboratories such as Los Alamos, Brookhaven or Jefferson.



As an Undergraduate Student



Each physics or EP major is mentored by a faculty advisor who individually helps you choose courses matched to your degree plan and interests. Our professors will help you find summer research opportunities – often at other universities – to broaden your perspectives. You then have the opportunity to present your research at local or regional meetings.

In addition to the scholarships provided by NMSU, the department offers merit based scholarships to the top 25% of our undergraduates.

Visit Us

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Physics and Engineering Physics

Physics or Engineering Physics?

Physicists study the basic principles and laws which govern the natural world. As a physicist you can tackle today's scientific and technological challenges, compete for high-tech jobs, or do cutting-edge research. Engineering Physics bridges the fundamental knowledge from physics with engineering skills, and you will take courses in both disciplines.

You have the option to earn a BA or BS in physics, or a BS in engineering physics.

Physics





Exploring the Unknown





When pursuing a bachelor's degree in physics you have the choice between the Bachelor of Arts (BA) or the Bachelor of Science (BS), both awarded through the College of Arts and Sciences. The BS program requires more in-depth science courses and prepares students for a job or continued studies in physics or a related scientific, engineering or technological field. The BA degree allows more flexibility in choosing elective courses – for example, in preparation for law school or medical school – and requires a minor in another department. Popular minors are Mathematics and Astronomy.

While many physics graduates from NMSU have attended top-flight graduate schools both here and abroad – such as Ohio State, University of Illinois, University of Amsterdam – others have valued their experience here so much that they have stayed to pursue a graduate degree. During your senior year you may already take graduate-level courses, of which six credits can count towards a Master's degree in physics with our five year BS/MS option.

Engineering Physics





Developing New Technologies





The Engineering Physics program at New Mexico State University offers an ABET-accredited Bachelor of Science (BS) degree through the College of Engineering that combines engineering and physics programs to prepare you for careers in state-of-the-art industry or for advanced study in engineering or physics. In addition to a traditional preparation in engineering, EP will teach you important concepts in modern physics (quantum mechanics, condensed matter physics, laser optics, atomic physics, and nuclear physics), which play an instrumental role in modern technology. As an EP student you will choose an engineering concentration such as Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Chemical Engineering or Electrical Engineering and will take roughly a third of your courses according to that program along with your physics curriculum, mathematics, chemistry and general education courses.