



DREXEL UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

PHYSICS

DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Drexel University's Physics program is one of the most innovative in the country. In virtually every course in the major, students are empowered to solve real-world problems using state-of-the-art techniques, exploring areas as diverse as biophysics and cosmology, nanoscience and particle physics. With a large number of elective courses, the curriculum allows each student to customize their studies to their career interests. Opportunities also exist to pursue courses in teacher certification and other professional requirements.

Above: The IceCube Neutrino Observatory in Antarctica, one of many field sites across the globe where Drexel Physics faculty conduct research.

DEGREES OFFERED

Physics (BS, MS, PhD)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Admissions
drexel.edu/undergrad

College of Arts and Sciences
drexel.edu/coas

Department of Physics
drexel.edu/physics

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICS

Drexel's undergraduate Physics program offers an innovative curriculum in a top-notch learning environment featuring small class sizes, personal mentorship from faculty, and close interaction with leading researchers in the field. Students explore the span of universal phenomena — from the farthest reaches of astrophysics and cosmology, to molecular biophysics, condensed matter physics, and subatomic particle physics — gaining a solid foundation for continued study and exploration. Most undergraduates actively participate in one or more research projects, often resulting in co-authored publications and presentations at national conferences.

DREXEL CO-OP

Through Drexel's cooperative education program, students embark on up to three, six-month periods of employment, exploring their career options, strengthening their résumés and building a professional network in the process. Physics students have worked in a variety of industries and companies — Princeton Plasma Laboratories, the Army Research Labs, Columbia Medical Center, and the National Optical Astrophysics Observatory, among others — conducting fundamental research, and working on projects that go far beyond the classroom.

RESEARCH

Physics majors can get involved in scientific research as early as their freshman year. Previous students have conducted research for the IceCube Neutrino Observatory in Antarctica, worked on cures for sickle cell disease, and taken their studies into space using data from the Hubble Space Telescope. Our majors work closely with department faculty members who are actively involved in the research areas of astrophysics, biophysics, condensed matter and particle physics. Senior physics majors undertake a yearlong original research project. Many of our students and alums have been nationally recognized with the prestigious Barry Goldwater and Gates Cambridge Scholarships, and with NSF Graduate Research Fellowships.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Drexel's physics department has an outstanding student-faculty ratio (about 5:1). Both the faculty and senior students provide a supportive environment to ensure that our majors reach their full potential.

Our award-winning Society of Physics Students and Women in Physics Society actively mentor younger students and the community at large through outreach activities. The two groups work with high schools and middle schools throughout the Philadelphia area to excite students about science, and they engage the public at monthly observing nights at Drexel's Joseph R. Lynch Observatory, which draws hundreds of visitors. Students also have a chance to meet and interact with Nobel Prize winners and other renowned physicists at our acclaimed Kaczmarczik Lecture series.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Most physics graduates are employed by educational institutions, industrial firms, government laboratories, or federally funded research and development centers. Our students have gone on to top doctoral physics programs at Harvard, UC Berkeley, Duke, Chicago, Columbia, Stanford and Yale, among others. Outside of academia, our alumni can be found as data scientists at Facebook and Google, engineers at Microsoft, software engineers at the Goddard Space Flight Center and Lockheed Martin, educators at the American Museum of Natural History, founders of startups, and veterinarians and medical doctors.

WHAT OUR ALUMS AND STUDENTS SAY

"Through the Drexel co-op program, I learned not only about how physics research is structured, but also about the nature of research across other disciplines. I was able to network with graduate students, researchers, scientists and faculty from all over the world, many of whom helped me tremendously as both a student and a person."

MARK GIOVINAZZI '18

"The most important part of my Drexel physics experience has been the stellar professors in the physics department. There is a real sense that the faculty care about the student experience and our education, and that collaborative atmosphere extends into research. The STAR research program in particular, as well as the Drexel co-op, have allowed me to do actual research and hands-on construction work at Yale, things I never thought I would be doing in college."

JAMES MINOCK '20

"I've found a number of wonderful, welcoming communities at Drexel that I love being a part of, but the physics department at Drexel is where I feel most understood. Being surrounded by people who understand your passion is really amazing, especially when the department is as small and close knit as ours."

EMILY HARKNESS '20

CONTACT US

Department of Physics

David Goldberg, PhD
Associate Department
Head Disque Hall, Room
816
32 South 32nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
215.895.2708
dmg39@physics.drexel.edu

Undergraduate Admissions

Drexel University
3141 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
1.800.2.DREXEL
enroll@drexel.edu



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