

Abilene Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I = Information Item R = Respond In Writing

Course Number: _____ **or Degree Plan(s):** PHYS-PHYC

Short description:

Update track to reflect changed PHYS 115 and 116 intro sequence and remove ENGR 117. Also add new MATH and SDS courses: MATH 325, SDS 387, and SDS 479. These new SDS courses provide important new skills to this degree plan that have not previously been available. The MATH 325 course is a prerequisite needed for the new SDS courses.

		Dept./School	College	Dean	TEC	AUAC/Grad	Provost
	Campus-Level Academic Review¹						
	Change to a Course Include signatures from all chairs/program directors for cross-listed courses. ¹						
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A	I	I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A	I	I	I
3.	Course term(s)	A	I	A	I	I	I
4.	Content (change of course outcomes)	A	A	A	I	I	A
5.	Number of credit hours	A	A	A	A	A	A
6.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I	I	I
7.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A	A	A
8.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I	I	I
9.	Course restriction (e.g., majors only, junior standing)	A	A	A	A	A	A
10.	Level change (U to G or G to U)	A	A	A	A	A	A
11.	Cross list course	A	A	A	A	A	A
12.	Department of record	A	A	A	A	A	A
13.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A	A	A
	Change to a Degree Plan						
14.	Educational Program — Revise	A	A	A	A	A	A
15.	Educational Program — Adopt/revise admission requirements	A	A	A	A	A	A
16.	GPA — Revise program-required GPA	A	A	A	A	A	A
17.	Minor — Revise	A	A	A	A	A	A

		Dept./School	College	Dean	TEC	AUAC/Grad	Provost	Campus Faculty	Senior VPAA	President
	Full Review									
	Change to Catalog Information (for Campus)									
18.	General requirements for Bachelor's and Associate Degrees	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	A	I
19.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	A	I
20.	Requirements for graduating with honors	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	A	I
	Change to a Degree Plan									
21.	Educational Program — Add or Discontinue ^{2 3}	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	I
22.	Educational Program — Discontinue (Provost-proposed)	R	-	R	A	A	A	A	A	I
23.	Minor — Add or Discontinue	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	A	I
24.	Minor — Discontinue (Provost-proposed)	R	-	R	A	A	A	-	A	I
25.	Degree — Add or Discontinue	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	I
26.	Degree — Discontinue (Provost-proposed)	R	-	R	A	A	A	A	A	I

		Dept./School	College	Dean	TEC	AUAC/Grad	Provost	Campus Faculty	Senior VPAA	President
	Change to General Education Requirements for Undergraduates (System)									
27.	Change course outcomes of an included course	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	A	I
28.	Add or drop a required course from the General Education Requirements	A	-	A	-	A	A	A	A	I
29.	Add or drop a course from a menu within the General Education Requirements	A	-	A	-	A	A	-	A	I
30.	Comprehensive revision of General Education Requirements	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	A	I

Notes

² Any change to a cross-listed course requires the signature of both department chairs or program directors overseeing the course to ensure that the courses stay in sync. This includes courses taught at other campuses (e.g., BIBL 101 and BIBO 101).

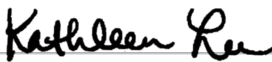
³ For undergraduate majors, a minimum of 30 hours is required. These programs must have a minimum of 6 elective hours, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible. Master's programs must include a minimum of 30 hours, and doctoral programs must include a minimum of 30 hours beyond the master's.

⁴ When a department/school or dean proposes closing a program, approval routing follows the typical process beginning with the department/school. An administrative proposal by the provost or senior vice president for academic affairs would follow the "provost-proposed" routing on the chart.

Department/School(s)

	03/26/26
Chair Signature	Date
Chair/Program Director Signature	Date

College Academic Council(s)

	04/16/2026
Chair Signature	Date
Chair Signature	Date

Dean(s)

	4/16/2026
Signature	Date
Signature	Date

Teacher Education Council

Signature	Date
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**Campus Academic Council:
Abilene Undergraduate or Abilene Graduate**

Signature	Date
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Provost

Signature	Date
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University General Education Council

Signature	Date
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University Faculty

Abilene Faculty Senate Chair signature

Date

Dallas Faculty Council Chair signature

Date

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Signature

Date

President

Signature

Date

Physics, Computational Physics, BS (PHYS-PHYC)

BS: Physics Degree Plan (PHYS)

General Departmental Requirements

Physics majors must develop mathematical skills as well as experimental, theoretical, and computational abilities. If the student does not qualify to take Precalculus II ([MATH 124](#)) when the student enters ACU, his or her graduation may be delayed.

General Education Requirements

Please see the [General Education](#) section of this catalog.

Major Requirements

Physics

- ~~ENGR 115 - Introduction to Engineering and Physics Credit Hours: 1~~
- ~~ENGR 116 - Introduction to Engineering and Physics Laboratory Credit Hours: 1~~
- ~~ENGR 117 - Computational Tools for Engineering and Physics Credit Hours: 1~~
- PHYS 115 - Introduction to Physics Credit Hours: 2
- PHYS 116 - Introduction to Physics Lab Credit Hours: 1
- [PHYS 220 - Engineering Physics I](#) Credit Hours: 3 *
- [PHYS 221 - Engineering Physics I Laboratory](#) Credit Hours: 1
- [PHYS 222 - Engineering Physics II](#) Credit Hours: 3 *
- [PHYS 223 - Engineering Physics II Laboratory](#) Credit Hours: 1
- [PHYS 330 - Modern Physics](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [PHYS 331 - Modern Physics Laboratory](#) Credit Hours: 1

- [PHYS 362 - Optics](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [PHYS 363 - Optics Laboratory](#) Credit Hours: 1
- [PHYS 379 - Philosophy, Religion and Science](#) Credit Hours: 3 *
- [PHYS 497 - Physics Capstone I](#) Credit Hours: 2 (capstone and writing-intensive course)
- [PHYS 498 - Physics Capstone II](#) Credit Hours: 2 (capstone course)
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- *Hours may also fulfill general education requirements and are not included in total major hours

Mathematics

- [MATH 185 - Calculus I](#) Credit Hours: 3 *
- [MATH 186 - Calculus II](#) Credit Hours: 3
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- *Hours may also fulfill general education requirements and are not included in total major hours

Total: 20 Credit Hours

Computational Physics (PHYC)

- [CS 120 - Programming I](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [CS 130 - Programming II: Data Structures](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [MATH 325 - Linear Algebra](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [MATH 341 - Numerical Methods](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [MATH 377 - Statistical Methods I](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [SDS 387 - Data Visualization in R and Python](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [SDS 479 - Multivariate Analysis](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [PHYS 351 - Applied Numerical Methods](#) Credit Hours: 3
- [PHYS 453 - Machine Learning](#) Credit Hours: 3

Choose 3 9 hours from:

- CS 300-499, ECEN 300-499, SDS 300-499, or PHYS 300-499 (except 378)
Credit Hours: 3 9

Choose 3 hours from:

- PHYS 300-499 (except 378) Credit Hours: 3

Total: ~~24~~ 39 Credit Hours

Electives

Minimum - ~~30~~ 15 Credit Hours

Total Major Hours: 74

Other Graduation Requirements

Minimum grade for PHYS courses: C

Minimum GPA for graduation: 2.00

Minimum advanced hours: 33

Minimum total hours: 128

*Courses numbered 0** do not count in minimum hours required for degree.*