

## Physics

### At UW-Eau Claire

Are you curious and imaginative? Do you get personal satisfaction from solving problems? Do you enjoy math and analyzing the physical world? Do you want to solve the mysteries of the universe? Then a degree in physics may be for you!

### Tell me more

Modern society is influenced by physics in countless ways. Recent development in fields such as laser optics, miniaturized electronics, nanotechnology, nuclear energy and medical instrumentation, are just some of the ways physics advances society today.

### Research with faculty

The large Physics department at UW-Eau Claire offers a wide variety of possible research areas for students. This unique opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty in physics research spans the discipline. Some examples include atomic or acoustical physics, materials science, near-IR spectroscopy of planetary nebulae, X-ray spectroscopy of hot stars, computational science research and planetary science. Some students are currently using the Chandra X-ray telescope orbiting the Earth, some are developing new semiconductor technology and some are working with local companies to improve products.

### Innovative facilities

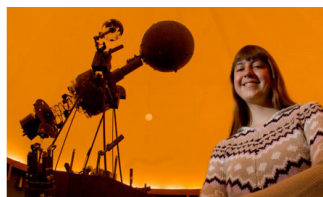
As a student you have access to the Materials Science Center. No other similar campus in the upper Midwest has equipment and technology such as atomic force microscope, a scanning tunneling electron microscope and an x-ray diffractometer, to name a few, concentrated in one center. Unlike other universities, UW-Eau Claire also provides the opportunity for interdisciplinary collaborative



projects with faculty. In addition, students have access to a 24-inch reflecting telescope at Hobbs Observatory. No other school in this region has as large a telescope for student research projects.

### Solid preparation

UW-Eau Claire graduates more physics majors than most other four-year colleges in the country, according to a recent American Institute of Physics study. Physics majors are well prepared for graduate studies in the area of physics, surface science, astronomy, materials science, medical physics, medicine, teaching, engineering, architecture, and law. They are also prepared for careers with computer companies, planetariums, government laboratories, the military, technology and materials companies, and the Peace Corps.



*"I have found my time as an Applied Physics student at UW-Eau Claire to be incredibly rewarding. I have established great friendships and met amazing professors who have really inspired me and pushed me to research goals such as autonomous robotics systems."*

— Hyoki



### Our graduates

Our physics graduates participate in life-changing endeavors such as developing methods and tools that

diagnose and cure disease, managing traffic flow in large cities, predicting geological phenomena such as

earthquakes, creating new materials, and developing cleaner fuels for automobiles.

## Majors

Physics, Liberal Arts emphasis or Applied emphasis

Physics, Teaching

Physics and Engineering Dual Degree (See separate Fact sheet)

### Comprehensive majors (require no minor)

Physical Science, Teaching

Physics-Math, teaching

**Pre-engineering** (See below)

## Minors

Physics, Liberal arts

Physics, Teaching

## Suggested freshman curriculum

University writing requirement — depending on placement exam.

For test-out options, see uwec.edu/Blugoldseminar/testout.

Precalculus Math or Calculus I

General Chemistry

Calculus II

University Physics I

Intro to Computer Programming

Social sciences or humanities course

## Places you'll find recent graduates:

- *Computer Programmer*, Celestica, Eau Claire, WI
- *Astronomer*, SIRT Science Center, California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, CA
- *Graduate Student*, University of Minnesota, Purdue, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- *Quality Engineer and World Wide Stop Ship Coordinator*, IBM in Rochester, MN
- *Physics Teacher*, Palm Beach County, FL and Cadott, WI
- *National Research Council Research Association*, NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX

## note:

### Pre-engineering

UW-Eau Claire has a strong Pre-engineering program where students usually spend two years at UW-Eau Claire before transferring to an engineering school to complete their degree. We also offer a dual degree program, which allows students to earn two bachelor's degrees in approximately five years — a physics degree from UW-Eau Claire and an engineering degree from either UW-Madison or the University of Minnesota.

[www.uwec.edu/physics](http://www.uwec.edu/physics)

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