Department Mission

The Department of Physics strives to provide an exciting, engaging and rigorous educational environment that stresses relevant research, classroom learning, and extensive training to prepare students for careers in industry, education, or further research. With an emphasis on graduate research, the department has an effective curriculum that provides high quality hands-on training in state-of-the-art research facilities. The department provides a meaningful educational experience facilitated by dedicated faculty who work closely with students. Most graduate students are supported as instructional or research assistants.

Degrees Offered

» Master of Science in Physics
» Master of Science in Materials Physics

My time spent in the Texas State graduate physics program has provided me with the challenges, opportunities and connections to be hired by a top tier company and compete with the nation’s best engineers.

– Maclyn Compton, Intel

Students are trained to be problem solvers and are prepared to apply their scientific knowledge to real-world situations.

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Why choose Texas State?
A solid physics foundation combined with extensive, hands-on training in state-of-the-art nanofabrication and characterization facilities prepares students for careers in the local high-tech industry, science education or advanced studies. Students are engaged in research and gain superior graduate education with individual faculty attention and mentoring.

Graduate students perform competitive, relevant research in a welcoming, supportive and diverse environment with an emphasis on developing professional abilities such as teamwork, project organization, and presentation and technical writing skills.

Course Work
Master of Science (M.S.) in Physics
Students can complete a 36-hour non-thesis program or a 30-hour thesis program. Both options include core physics courses and electives. The thesis option offers an especially strong opportunity for research in experimental condensed matter physics, nanotechnology and physics education research. The M.S. in physics educates students in advanced physics through a rigorous curriculum that includes cutting-edge, hands-on training.

Master of Science (M.S.) in Materials Physics
The M.S. in materials physics is a 35-hour program that requires preparation of a thesis and stresses experimental materials physics primarily related to the semiconductor and high-tech industries. The degree also requires a one-semester industry internship.

Faculty
Physics faculty are engaged in externally funded, competitive, interdisciplinary research in condensed matter physics, physics education and historical astronomy. Our students’ research has the potential to change the world. Federal, state and private organizations have supported this research with an especially strong emphasis on materials physics and nanotechnology with applications in semiconductor and oxide optoelectronic devices, solar cells and energy harvesting, and physics education research.

Career Options
Physics graduates find careers in the local or national, high-tech and semiconductor industry, in K-14 physics education or pursue advanced degrees. Master’s degree graduates have the option to continue to an innovative, multidisciplinary Ph.D. program in Materials Science, Engineering and Commercialization offered at Texas State University.

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Priority Fall: February 15
Fall: June 15
Priority Spring: September 15
Spring: October 15
Summer: No admission

Applications will continue to be considered on a space-available basis after the deadline.

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at:
grdcollege.txstate.edu/intl_home

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit:
Physics
gradcollege.txstate.edu/physics
Materials Physics
gradcollege.txstate.edu/materials.physics