Why Major in Physics?

Physics is everywhere and it forms the basis for most of today’s technology. With a major from the Department of Physics and Astronomy, you will acquire quantitative problem-solving and technical communication skills that will give you the edge when seeking career employment or advancement to graduate or professional programs.

Career Opportunities

- Astronomer/Physicist
- Chemist
- Elected official
- Engineer
- Financial analyst
- Hardware/Software developer
- Health practitioner
- K-12 educator
- Legal analyst
- Meteorologist/Seismologist
- Science journalist
- Technology entrepreneur
- University/College professor

Department Facts

- We are known for small class sizes and ample undergraduate research opportunities that will allow you to interact directly with faculty and distinguish yourself.
- The department offers unique university experiences, such as “Astro Hour,” a weekly informal discussion group; a student led seminar series; and the Society of Physics Students.
- Our faculty and students make regular use of national facilities, research labs and institutions such as the National Synchrotron Light Source for high-energy X-ray experimental physics world-class space and ground-based telescopes in the X-ray, ultraviolet, optical, infrared and radio wavelengths for observational astronomy, and supercomputers from the National Science Foundation for running computationally intensive simulations.
- Graduates enjoy successful careers in medical, scientific, public service, engineering, and other technical and non-technical fields.
- Our department has seven scholarships dedicated to support our majors.

Majors and Minors

- Bachelor of Arts, Physics
- Bachelor of Science, Physics
- Bachelor of Science, Physics with Astronomy Emphasis
- Bachelor of Science, Physics with Pre-Med Track
- Double Bachelor of Science, Physics + Engineering
- Minor, Physics or Astronomy
- Schedule Flexibility (double degree or double major)
- Master of Science, Physics
- Doctor of Philosophy, Physics

Learn More at: catalog.umkc.edu

UMKC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INSTITUTION
Students are encouraged to take advantage of the wide range of extracurricular opportunities available:

**A. The Society of Physics Students**

Meets to discuss recent physics events and discoveries; takes field trips to regional sites and makes physics gadgets at every meeting.

**B. Astro-Hour**

Meets weekly to discuss recent discoveries, instrumentation advances and unresolved problems in the fields of astronomy, astrophysics and cosmology.

Students receive cutting-edge undergraduate research opportunities with expert faculty; exposure to theory, experiment/observation and simulation; and have numerous connections to career opportunities within Kansas City, throughout the country and abroad.

**WHY CHOOSE UMKC?**

- Total student population: 16,160 (10,462 undergraduate and 5,698 graduate and professional students)
- More than 200 student organizations
- More than 3,000 companies and organizations recruit UMKC students for jobs and internships each year
- 16 NCAA Division I sports teams
- UMKC is the largest university in the city, a dynamic cultural hub of visual and performing arts as well as sports
- 12:1 student-to-faculty ratio
- Average class size: 27 students
- More than 90 percent of freshmen receive some type of financial aid
- 95 percent of all educators at UMKC hold doctorate degrees or the highest possible degree in their field of study
- UMKC was recognized as a Best Value College in 2012, 2013 and 2014 by the Princeton Review

**LEARN MORE**

CAS.UMKC.EDU/PHYSICS

**Department of Physics & Astronomy**

257 Flarsheim Hall
5110 Rockhill Road
Kansas City, MO 64110
P. 816-235-1604
E. physics-astronomy@umkc.edu

RELY MISSOURI: 800-735-2966 (TTY)