

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE PHYSICS PROGRAM AT CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY

The mission of the physics program is to provide a strong physics background for students majoring in forensic science and biology, as well as for students pursuing a career in professional fields such as engineering, medicine and biology that require some physics knowledge. The program is also committed to the liberal arts concept of providing a broad background of knowledge, and encouraging students to learn about all areas of study. The physics faculty is dedicated to teaching physics in a stimulating environment that provides ample opportunity for hands on experimentation and, whenever possible, individual research. Course offerings include both College and University general physics course sequences, as well as courses of more general interest, including Astronomy and the Physics of Photography.

To achieve these goals the students who enroll in physics can expect to:

- * Develop an increased awareness of the universe.
- * Develop an understanding of the physical behavior of the world around them.
- * Develop high level analytical skills, and the ability to think logically.
- * Help supply students with the physics knowledge required to enter fields such as medicine, forensic science, biology, engineering, and teaching.
- * Develop experience in setting up, carrying out, and analyzing scientific experiments.
- * Form skills in interpreting and assigning confidence limits relating to experimental results.

PROGRAM GOALS FOR THE MINOR IN PHYSICS

Upon completion of the undergraduate minor in Physics, the student will demonstrate an understanding of:

- 1. The scientific method and its application in Physics:**
 - a) The skills and competencies in this area are formed in students through the basic science courses required.
 - b) Relevant Courses: PHY251, 252 and associated laboratory activities; 12 semester hours of upper division Physics classes, plus an upper division Physics lab.
 - c) Support courses: MA 210, 211, 311, 313.

- 2. The different areas of research and practice in Physics:**
 - a) Relevant courses: 12 semester hours from PHY301, 301L, 310, 311, 312, 313, 315L.

- 3. The general concepts and principles of Physics:**
 - a) The student is exposed to the different sub disciplines in physics.
 - b) Relevant Courses: PHY251/251L; PHY252/252L; 12 semester hours of upper division Physics courses.
 - c) Support courses: MA 210, 211, 311, 313.

