

2023–24 Physics–Professional Physics Academic Map

Department of Physics and Astronomy

Middle Tennessee State University • Murfreesboro



An academic map is a suggested four-year schedule of courses based on degree requirements in the undergraduate catalog. This sample schedule serves as a general guideline to help build a full schedule each term. Milestones, courses, and special requirements necessary for timely progress to complete a major are designated to keep you on track to graduate in four years. **Missing milestones could delay your program.**

This map is not a substitute for academic advisement—contact your advisor if you have any questions about scheduling or about your degree requirements. Also see the current undergraduate catalog (catalog.mtsu.edu) for a complete list of requirements and electives. *Note: Requirements are continually under revision, and there is no guarantee they will not be changed or revoked; contact the department and/or program area for current information.*

You may choose to attend a summer term to reduce your load during fall or spring terms but still stay on track to graduate in four years (see back). NOTE: Learning Support courses will alter the sequences on this map.

Suggested Fall/Spring Four-Year Schedule

FRESHMAN FALL			FRESHMAN SPRING		
Course	Hours	Milestones/Notes	Course	Hours	Milestones/Notes
ENGL 1010 (Comm)	3		ENGL 1020 (Comm)	3	Prereq: ENGL 1010 with C- or better
MATH 1910 (Math)	4	Take MATH 1730 first if weak background in Math; may take MATH 1910 with acceptable Math ACT score (26).	MATH 1920	4	Prereq: MATH 1910 with C or better
CHEM 1110/1111 (Nat Sci)	4	Prereq: High school chemistry	CHEM 1120/1121	4	Prereq: CHEM 1110 with C- or better
PHYS 2010/2011 or PHYS 2110/2111 (Nat Sci)	4	required for major	PHYS 2020/2021 or PHYS 2120/2121	4	Consult with advisor
PHYS 1010	1				
SUBTOTAL	16		SUBTOTAL	15	
SOPHOMORE FALL			SOPHOMORE SPRING		
PHYS 3100	3	Prereq: PHYS 2021 or 2121; MATH 1920 with C or better	PHYS 3110	3	Prereq: PHYS 3100
PHYS 3150	3	Prereq: PHYS 2021 or 2121; MATH 1920 with C or better	PHYS 3111	1	Prereq: PHYS 3100
Elective	4	MATH 3110 rec.	PHYS 3160	3	Prereq: PHYS 3150
COMM 2200 (Comm)	3		Elective	3	MATH 3120 rec.
			ENGL 2020, ENGL 2030, or HUM 2610 (Hum/FA)	3	
SUBTOTAL	13		SUBTOTAL	13	
JUNIOR FALL			JUNIOR SPRING		
PHYS 3610* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 3300 odd yr.	PHYS 3200* (offered every other yr.)	2	PHYS 4330 odd yr.;
PHYS 4380* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 4310 odd yr.;	PHYS 3800	1	Prereq: PHYS 3110
Hum/FA (Rubric 1)	3		Hum/FA (Rubric 2)	3	
Soc/Beh Sci (Rubric 1)	3		Soc/Beh Sci (Rubric 2)	3	
CSCI 1170	4	Prereq: MATH 1730 with C or better	Electives	6	Consult with advisor
			Elective	0–3	Not needed if started fall of odd yr.
SUBTOTAL	16		SUBTOTAL	15–18	
SENIOR FALL			SENIOR SPRING		
PHYS 3300* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 3610 odd yr.	PHYS 3900	1	Prereq: PHYS 3110
PHYS 4310* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 4380 odd yr.	PHYS 4330* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 3200 odd yr.
PHYS 4850	2	Prereq: Consent of instructor	PHYS 4900	2	Prereq: PHYS 4850
HIST 2010, 2020, 2030, 2040, or 2050	3		HIST 2010, 2020, 2030, 2040, or 2050	3	
Elective	3	Consult with advisor	Electives	6	Consult with advisor
Elective	2	Consult with advisor	Elective	0–3	Needed if started odd yr.
SUBTOTAL	16		SUBTOTAL	15–18	

*NOTE: If degree was started in fall of ODD year, use alternate course listed.

TOTAL HOURS IN PROGRAM: 120

Physics–Professional Physics

Suggested Fall/Spring/Summer Four-Year Schedule

Refer to www.mtsu.edu/financial-aid/scholarships for information regarding use of the Lottery Scholarship for the summer term.

FRESHMAN FALL			FRESHMAN SPRING		
Course	Hours	Milestones/Notes	Course	Hours	Milestones/Notes
ENGL 1010 (Comm)	3		ENGL 1020 (Comm)	3	Prereq: ENGL 1010 with C- or better
CHEM 1110/1111 (Nat Sci)	4	Prereq: High school chemistry	CHEM 1120/1121	4	Prereq: CHEM 1110 with C- or better
PHYS 2010/2011 or PHYS 2110/2111 (Nat Sci)	4	required for major	PHYS 2020/2021 or PHYS 2120/2121	4	Consult with advisor
MATH 1910 (Math)	4	Take MATH 1730 first if weak background in Math; may take MATH 1910 with acceptable Math ACT score (26).	MATH 1920	4	Prereq: MATH 1910 with C or better
PHYS 1010	1				
SUBTOTAL	16		SUBTOTAL	15	
FRESHMAN SUMMER					
HIST 2010, 2020, 2030, 2040, or 2050	3		Hum/FA (Rubric 1)	3	
SUBTOTAL	3		SUBTOTAL	3	
SOPHOMORE FALL			SOPHOMORE SPRING		
PHYS 3100	3	Prereq: PHYS 2021 or 2121; MATH 1920 with C or better	PHYS 3110	3	Prereq: PHYS 3100
PHYS 3150	3	Prereq: PHYS 2021 or 2121; MATH 1920 with C or better	PHYS 3111	1	Prereq: PHYS 3100
Elective	4	MATH 3110 rec.	PHYS 3160	3	Prereq: PHYS 3150
COMM 2200 (Comm)	3		Elective	3	MATH 3120 rec.
			ENGL 2020, ENGL 2030, or HUM 2610 (Hum/FA)	3	
SUBTOTAL	13		SUBTOTAL	13	
SOPHOMORE SUMMER					
HIST 2010, 2020, 2030, 2040, or 2050	3		Soc/Beh Sci (Rubric 1)	3	
SUBTOTAL	3		SUBTOTAL	3	
JUNIOR FALL			JUNIOR SPRING		
PHYS 3610* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 3300 odd yr.	PHYS 3200* (offered every other yr.)	2	PHYS 4330 odd yr.
PHYS 4380* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 4310 odd yr.	PHYS 3800	1	Prereq: PHYS 3110
Soc/Beh Sci (Rubric 2)	3		Hum/FA (Rubric 2)	3	
CSCI 1170	4	Prereq: MATH 1730 with C or better	Elective	3	Consult with advisor
			Elective	3	Consult with advisor
			Elective	2	Consult with advisor
			Elective*	0–3	Not needed if started fall of odd yr.
SUBTOTAL	13		SUBTOTAL	14–17	
SENIOR FALL			SENIOR SPRING		
PHYS 3300* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 3610 odd yr.	PHYS 3900	1	Prereq: PHYS 3110
PHYS 4310* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 4380 odd yr.	PHYS 4330* (offered every other yr.)	3	PHYS 3200 odd yr.
PHYS 4850	3	Prereq: Consent of instructor	PHYS 4900	2	Prereq: PHYS 4850
Elective	3	Consult with advisor	Elective	3	Consult with advisor
			Elective	3	Consult with advisor
			Elective*	0–3	Needed if started odd yr.
SUBTOTAL	12		SUBTOTAL	12–15	
*NOTE: If degree was started in fall of ODD year, use alternate course listed.					
TOTAL HOURS IN PROGRAM: 120					