



This course plan is a recommended sequence for this major. Courses designated as critical (!) may have a deadline for completion and/or affect time to graduation. Please see the Program Notes section for details regarding “critical courses” for this particular Program of Study.

Critical	Course Subject and Title	Credit Hours	Min. Grade ¹	Major GPA ²	Code	Prerequisites	Notes
Semester One (16 Credit Hours)							
!	ENGL 101 Critical Reading and Composition	3	C		CC-CMW		
!	MATH 141 Calculus 1 ³	4	C		CC-ARP	Math 112/115/116 <i>or</i> Math placement test score	
	CHEM 111 & CHEM 111L – General Chemistry I	4	C		PR	MATH 111, 115 <i>or</i> Math placement test score	
!	PHYS 199 Measurement & Analysis in Physics (<i>offered fall only</i>)	2	C		PR		
	UNIV 101 The Student in the University <i>or</i> Carolina Core Requirement ⁴	3			PR/CC		
Semester Two (17 Credit Hours)							
!	ENGL 102 Rhetoric and Composition	3	C		CC-CMW CC-INF		
!	MATH 142 Calculus II	4	C		CC-ARP	MATH 141	
	CHEM 112 & CHEM 112L – General Chemistry II	4	C		PR	CHEM 111 <i>or</i> 141 & MATH 111, 115 <i>or</i> higher math	
!	PHYS 211 Essentials of Physics I	3	C		CC-SCI	MATH 141	
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁴	3			CC		
Semester Three (16-17 Credit Hours)							
!	MATH 241 Vector Calculus	3	C		CR	MATH 142	
!	PHYS 212 Essentials of Physics II	3	C		CC-SCI	PHYS 211 & MATH 142	
	CSCE 145 Algorithmic Design I	4	C		CR	Prereq <i>or</i> Coreq: MATH 111 <i>or</i> 115	
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁴	3			CC		
	Foreign language ⁵ <i>or</i> other Carolina Core Requirement ⁴	3-4			CC-GFL		
Semester Four (15 Credit Hours)							
	MATH 242 Elementary Differential Equations	3	C		PR	MATH 142	
!	PHYS 307 Introduction to Modern Physics (<i>offered spring only</i>)	3	C		MR	PHYS 207, 208, <i>and</i> MATH 241	
	Social Science	3			CR		
	History ⁶	3			CR		
	Foreign language ⁵ <i>or</i> other Carolina Core Requirement ⁴	3			CC-GFL		
Semester Five (14 Credit Hours)							
	MATH course (<i>500-level or above</i>)	3	C		PR		
	PHYS 306 Principles of Physics III (<i>offered fall only</i>)	3	C		PR	PHYS 207 <i>or</i> 212 & MATH 142; Prereq <i>or</i> Co-req: MATH 241	
	PHYS 308 Classic Experiments in Physics I (<i>offered fall only</i>)	2	C		MR	PHYS 202, 207 <i>or</i> 212	
	PHYS 501 Quantum Physics I (<i>offered fall only</i>)	3	C		MR	PHYS 307 <i>and</i> MATH 242	
	Foreign language ⁵ <i>or</i> Carolina Core Requirement ⁴	3			CR/CC		
Semester Six (14 Credit Hours)							
	MATH course (<i>500-level or above</i>)	3	C		PR		
	PHYS 309 Classic Experiments in Physics II (<i>offered spring only</i>)	2	C		MR	PHYS 308	
	PHYS 502 Quantum Physics II (<i>offered spring only</i>)	3	C		MR	PHYS 501	
	PHYS 506 Thermal Physics & Statistical Mechanics (<i>offered spring only</i>)	3	C		MR	PHYS 306	
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁶ <i>or</i> Approved Elective ⁸	3			CC/PR		
Semester Seven (13-14 Credit Hours)							
	Experimental Physics Course ⁷	3-4	C		MR/CC-INT		
	PHYS 503 Mechanics (<i>offered fall only</i>)	4	C		MR	PHYS 206 <i>or</i> 211 & MATH 242 <i>or</i> 520	
	Humanities <i>or</i> Fine Arts	3			CR		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁶ <i>or</i> Approved Elective ⁸	3			CC/PR		
Semester Eight (13-14 Credit Hours)							
	Experimental Physics Course ⁷	3-4	C		MR/CC-INT		
	PHYS 504 Electromagnetic Theory (<i>offered spring only</i>)	4	C		MR	PHYS 503	
	Approved Elective ⁸	3			PR		
	Approved Elective ⁸	3			PR		

Graduation Requirements Summary

Minimum Total Hours	Major Requirements Hours	College & Program Requirements Hours	Carolina Core Hours	Minimum Overall GPA
120	30	44-56	34-46	2.000

- Regardless of individual course grades, students must maintain a minimum 2.000 cumulative GPA.
- Some colleges require a minimum GPA for major courses. Courses indicated in this column are included in the major GPA for this program of study.
- Students who do not place into MATH 141 will be required to successfully complete MATH 112, 115, or 116 before taking MATH 141.
- Students in the College of Arts and Sciences are required to demonstrate proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the 122 course through course credit or the corresponding foreign language placement score.
- The [Carolina Core](#) provides the common core of knowledge, skill and academic experience for all Carolina undergraduate students.
- The College of Arts and Sciences requires one U.S. History and one non-U.S. History course, both of which must be chosen from the approved Carolina Core GHS courses. Whichever is not fulfilled through the Carolina Core GHS requirement must be fulfilled through this college requirement.
- Experimental Physics courses include but are not limited to:

Choose from the following (6-8 hours):	
PHYS 509 Solid State Electronics (4) <i>(offered spring only)</i>	PHYS 514 Optics, Theory, and Applications (4) <i>(offered fall only)</i>
PHYS 510 Digital Electronics (3)	PHYS 531 Advanced Physics Laboratory I (1-3) <i>(offered fall & summer only)</i>
PHYS 511 Nuclear Physics (4) <i>(offered spring only)</i>	PHYS 532 Advanced Physics Laboratory II (1-3) <i>(offered spring only)</i>
PHYS 512 Solid State Physics (4) <i>(offered spring only)</i>	

- No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Program Notes:

- ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 must be completed in the student's first 60 semester hours of work in order for these courses to be credited toward graduation. Other courses designated as critical are prerequisites for subsequent courses, and a delay in completion of these courses may affect time to graduation.
- Students may complete an Intensive Major in Physics by selecting two courses from PHYS 500 and above in addition to the General Physics requirements.
- The last 30 credit hours toward your degree must be earned in residence at the University of South Carolina-Columbia.

University Requirements: Bachelor's degree-seeking students must meet Carolina Core (general education) requirements. For more information regarding these requirements, please visit the [Carolina Core](#) page on the University website.

Codes:			
CC	Carolina Core	CC-INF	Carolina Core – Information Literacy
CC-AIU	Carolina Core-Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding	CC-INT	Carolina Core – Integrative Course
CC-ARP	Carolina Core-Analytical Reasoning and Problem-Solving	CC-SCI	Carolina Core – Scientific Literacy
CC-CMS	Carolina Core-Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Spoken Component	CC-VSR	Carolina Core – Values, Ethics, and Social Responsibility
CC-CMW	Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written Component	CR	College Requirement
CC-GFL	Carolina Core-Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language	MR	Major Requirement
CC-GHS	Carolina Core – Historical Thinking	PR	Program Requirement
CC-GSS	Carolina Core – Social Sciences		

Disclaimer: Major maps are only a suggested or recommended sequence of courses required in a program of study. Please contact your academic advisor for assistance in the application of specific coursework to a program of study and course selection and planning for upcoming semesters.