Physics

Physics principles underlie all other sciences and are the building blocks of technology from study involving bits of matter smaller than an atomic nucleus to the whole of the universe. Students studying physics at Utah State University get it all.

The Physics Department at Utah State teaches topics that range from nuclear physics to cosmology. Research programs are offered in nano-science, surface physics, plasma physics and space science as well as the cosmological theories of gravitation and fields.

Creative research scientists are needed to support emerging technologies and the Utah State Department of Physics is committed to teaching students at all levels the skills they needed to succeed. Career opportunities are many and may include research in government, medical or company laboratories; patent law; technical management; technical writing; and academic research and teaching at schools and universities.

Undergraduate research is an important component in the Utah State Physics program. Students complete a research course under the direction of a faculty mentor. Many students are asked to participate in faculty research programs at the national level at the Capitol in Washington D.C. and meetings of the National Conference of Undergraduate Research and at the local level at the Utah State Capitol and the Utah State’s annual student showcase.

The Utah State Department of Physics is a small department where majors experience a sense of community and they understand the significance of their role in a modern society.

“Helping students fall in love with physics is a perfectly visible priority in everyone: the professors, the advisors, the graduate students and even the administrative staff.”
—Lara Anderson, 2004 Rhodes Scholar Utah State Physics-Mathematics graduate
BS(Physics) 2003, BS (Mathematics) 2003, MS (Physics) 2004

“I consider myself lucky to have been part of an exceptional department that genuinely strives to take its undergraduate students under a protective wing.”
—Jerilyn Brunson, B.S. 2003
shared with faculty, staff and fellow physics students. With more than 34 classes and six emphases to choose from, students enrolled in the program can explore their interests and tailor their education to fit their needs. The NASA Get-Away-Special program provided many students from several disciplines the opportunity to fly experiments on the Space Shuttle. In the future we anticipate opportunities on the International Space Station.

We look forward to helping you develop your inquiring mind in the Department of Physics at Utah State University.

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