What is Physics?

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This resource is part of a set of brochures focused on subject majors; many can also be studied as minors.

What skills can graduates gain?

Through studying a degree in Physics, graduates develop a valuable set of skills and competencies, which can include:

- An understanding of how to apply scientific methodologies
- Mathematical confidence
- Technology and computer literacy; able to use specialist software
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What jobs and activities might graduates do?

Many Physics graduates are not employed as specific scientists — their physics can be applied to a range of jobs. See some job examples below.

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- Plan and carry out research experiments
- Maintain and calibrate equipment
- Liaise with scientists and industry personnel
- Collect and collate data, and draft reports

- Organise and conduct research
- Test theories and operate instruments
- Analyse data and scientific phenomena to develop explanatory theories
- Write reports and publish articles
- Consult with and advise industry

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- Analyse customer needs, evaluate computer software and research new technologies
- Develop software programs for new products
- Manage software development projects

- Determine specifications and write code
- Build prototypes of software programs
- Test and fix computer programs and systems
- Maintain and upgrade programs and systems

- Operate and improve diagnostic and therapeutic equipment
- Use knowledge and skills to help prevent, diagnose and treat different diseases/ conditions
- Ensure radiology, nuclear medicine and radiation treatments are safe and effective
- May develop and integrate technical aspects of websites/mobile apps along with other workers

- Research technical or scientific documents, to assess if a product is new and innovative
- Maintain knowledge of laws and regulations
- Advise businesses, government and industry

- Monitor weather systems and atmospheric patterns
- Analyse data and use forecasting models to predict weather conditions and climate trends
- Prepare weather maps, forecasts and alerts
- Design tests to measure air quality, ozone etc

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- Actuary
- Acoustic consultant
- Astronomer
- Assistant professor
- Data analyst / scientist
- Engineer
- Electronics assembler / tester
- Game developer / designer
- Geophysicist
- Instrument technician
- Lab demonstrator
- Medical technician
- Private wealth assistant
- Metallurgist
- Operational researcher
- Patent attorney / examiner
- Secondary school teacher
- System and application development
- Seismologist.

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I'm grateful that other educational creators have been really welcoming and friendly to me and I've loved getting to know many of them at annual VidCon events (a convention