



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

General physics 263 (PHY 263)

Qualification	Undergraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	06
Programmes	BEd in Senior Phase and Further Education and Training Teaching BSc in Applied Mathematics BSc in Chemistry BSc in Chemistry 4-year programme BSc in Mathematics BSc in Mathematics 4-year programme BSc in Meteorology BSc in Meteorology 4-year programme BSc in Physics BSc in Physics 4-year programme
Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	PHY 255 GS and WTW 218 GS and WTW 220# and WTW 248#
Contact time	4 lectures per week, 2 discussion classes per week, 1 practical per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Physics
Period of presentation	Semester 2



Module content

Classical mechanics

Fundamental concepts, energy and angular momentum, calculus of variations and Lagrangian mechanics, conservative central forces and two body problems, scattering, mechanics in rotating reference frames, many body systems.

Physical Optics

Maxwell's equations, wave equation and plane wave solution, coherence, interference, diffraction, polarisation.

Physics of Materials

Classification of materials. Atomic bonding. Crystallography. Defects. Material strength.

Phase diagram's, Ceramics. Polymers. Composites. Fracture. Electrical and magnetic properties.

Semiconductors. Smart materials Nanotechnology.

Experiments

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.