

What you can do with your **PHYSICS MAJOR**



Problem Solving

You learn to solve quantitative and qualitative problems proficiently and find relationships between physical factors.



Critical Thinking

You learn how to define and analyze problems, identify factors that contribute to outcomes, and analyze connections.



Experimental Design & Measurement

You are able to design experiments or studies to answer specific questions, properly use standard and specialized instrumentation to make measurements, and quantitatively estimate the reliability of results.



Computational & Data Analysis

You learn to collect and organize quantitative and qualitative astronomical data; plan astronomical observations using scientific computing methods; test hypotheses; and properly conduct and interpret statistical analysis.



Data Modeling

You build and interpret mathematical models of astronomical data using scientific computing methods.



Written & Oral Communication

You communicate concepts and results effectively with scientific peers, both orally and in writing.

Supplement Your Skills With:



Gain Experience:
Research, Internships,
Part-Time Work &
Data Competitions



Ethical Conduct in
Data Analysis &
Privacy



Career & Self
Development



Oral & Written
Communication With
the Public



Experience Fostering
Professional Equity &
Inclusion

Chart Your Path Forward

Activate Your Handshake Account
for connections to jobs,
internships, employer &
alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities
to discover a wide variety of
fields where you can turn your
major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising
from SuccessWorks to make a
plan, whether you're a first-year
student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu

Put your Physics major to **WORK**

Common Alumni Job Titles:

- Software/Systems Engineer (20)
- Professor (14)
- Research Associate/Fellow (11)
- Chief Executive Officer (7)
- Data Scientist (7)
- Business Owner (7)
- President (6)
- Principal Engineer (6)
- Optical Engineer (4)
- Physicist (4)
- Account Manager (3)
- Chief Technology Officer (3)
- Engineer (3)
- IT Manager (3)
- Medical Physicist (3)
- Research & Development Engineer (3)

Top Employers of Alumni:

Aerospace

- Berkeley Lab
- Lockheed Martin
- NASA
- NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
- National Radio Astronomy Observatory
- Southwest Research Institute
- Space Telescope Science Institute

Computing

- Apple
- Microsoft

Education

- Madison Area Technical College
- UW-Madison
- University of Washington

Info Tech

- Esker, Inc
- Expedia Group
- LinkedIn

Manufacturing & Utilities

- Electronic Theatre Controls
- Phoenix LLC
- Samtec Inc
- Sheboygan Water Utility

Medical Technology

- Epic
- GE Healthcare
- Shine Medical Technologies, Inc

Recent Grads' Career Plans:

- 51%** Continuing Education or Grad School
- 41%** Employment
- 4%** Military Service
- 4%** Other

Where Alumni Live & Work:

- 36%** Wisconsin
- 12%** California
- 6%** Minnesota
- 5%** Illinois
- 41%** Other



"The breadth of topics within the physics major have been instrumental in providing me with the tools for career success. Completing an internship and working one-on-one with professors and researchers really gave me an idea of what the profession entailed and required."

Samantha Lundt, 2008

Manufacturing Process Engineer, Quantum Devices, Inc.
Barneveld, WI



"Physicists often end up in fields that we didn't anticipate – some of us in fields that didn't exist when we were in college! The skill I have used more than any other is the ability to understand when and how a problem can be simplified. People often gravitate towards complex solutions when simple ones are often more practical, and sometimes more accurate."

Kimberlee Chestnut Chang, 1992

Member of Technical Staff – Human-AI Teaming Lead
MIT Lincoln Laboratory
Lexington, MA

Career Communities for Physics Majors

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources, and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Physics majors can start.

- Technology, Data & Analytics
- Scientific Research & Development
- Government, Policy, International Affairs & Law
- Consulting, Finance, Management & Client Relations

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.

successworks.wisc.edu