

Texas A&M University Commerce

MS Physics with Teacher Certification – Fall 2021

Welcome to the Department of Physics & Astronomy. Here is some information that you might find helpful about the MS Physics with Teacher Certification (MPTC) program and what & how to register for classes.

PREREQUISITE COURSES

Students are expected to have completed PHYS 2425 University Physics 1, PHYS 2426 University Physics 2, MATH 2413 Calculus 1, and MATH 2414 Calculus 2 or equivalent before beginning their courses in our program.

HOW TO TELL IF YOU ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE PREREQUISITE COURSES:

- If you have a bachelor's degree in a STEM field, you most likely do not need to take these courses.
- You are expected to have some familiarity with mechanics and electricity and magnetism. If a student feels as if they are deficient in either area, they will be free to take one or both physics courses. However, you will most likely have to take them at a local community college, as they are not typically offered online.
- You are expected to have some familiarity with calculus. PHYS 530 Physics Math Methods for Educators includes a calculus review. If a student feels they need additional calculus review, they will be free to take one or both calculus courses. However, you will most likely have to take them at a local community college, as they are not typically offered online.

CORE PHYSICS COURSES

You need to complete 5 out of 6 core physics courses:

COURSE #	COURSE NAME	CREDITS
PHYS 530	Physics Math Methods for Educators	3
PHYS 531	Classical Mechanics for Educators	3
PHYS 532	Electricity and Magnetism for Educators	3

PHYS 561	Astronomy and Astrophysics for Educators	3
PHYS 535	Thermodynamics for Educators	3
PHYS 526	Quantum Universe for Educators	3

TEACHER CERTIFICATION COURSES

You are required to complete 18 hours of teacher certification courses.

COURSE #	COURSE NAME	CREDITS
EDCI 514	Management and Curriculum Development for Diverse Learners	3
ETEC 524	Introduction to Educational Technology	3
EDCI 519	Response to Intervention	3
RDG 516	Foundations of Reading	3
EDCI 517	Reading and Learning	3
EDCI 515	Evidence-Based Teaching	3

RESEARCH LITERATURE

There is a required capstone course PHYS 595 Research Literature. In this course, you will write a literature review on a topic in physics of your choosing.

<i>Components</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Credits</i>
<i>Core Physics Courses</i>	5 core courses	<i>15</i>
<i>Teacher Certification Courses</i>	6 certification courses	<i>18</i>
<i>PHYS 595</i>	Research literature class	<i>3</i>
<i>Total</i>		<i>36</i>

TEACHER CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

During your first year in the program, you must

- Take and pass the PACT content exam in either 7-12 physics or 7-12 science. Learn about your exam and register at: http://www.tx.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Steps.html

- Apply to the alternative certification program. Submit your application through: https://teachcert.tamuc.edu/teacher/ACP/ACApplication.asp?_ga=2.57306863.430740307.1606751524-6442569.1583256661

Prior to beginning your student teaching internship, you must

- Complete 4 of the teacher certification courses.
- Complete 30 hours of classroom observation.

You must complete a student teaching internship in one of two ways:

- Apply for a 16 week unpaid internship through your Certification Coordinator, Tracey Stedman. (Recommended degree plans are set up for this option.)
- Find a 1 year paid internship with a school district directly.

Before completing your internship, you must

- Pass the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR) exam.

If you have any questions about teacher certification requirements, contact the Certification Coordinator, Tracey Stedman (Tracey.Stedman@tamuc.edu).

COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

WRITTEN COMPREHENSIVE EXAM:

- Comprehensive exam tests the six core physics courses.
- The Comprehensive Exam should be taken as soon as you have completed the core courses or in your last semester.
- You have two chances to take the comprehensive exam.
- Additional chance might be given through a petition (not guaranteed).

WHICH CLASSES TO REGISTER FOR

(FALL START) A TYPICAL SCHEDULE IF TAKING COURSES ONLY IN FALL AND SPRING:

	Fall	Spring
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 530 Physics Math Methods for Educators • PHYS 531 Classical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 532 Electricity and Magnetism for Educators • PHYS 526 Quantum Universe for

	Mechanics for Educators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDCI 514 Management and Curriculum Development for Diverse Learners 	Educators OR PHYS 535 Thermodynamics for Educators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ETEC 524 Introduction to Educational Technology
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 561 Astronomy and Astrophysics for Educators • EDCI 519 Response to Intervention • RDG 516 Foundations of Reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDCI 517 Reading and Learning • PHYS 595 Research Literature • EDCI 515 Evidence-Based Teaching

(SUMMER START) A TYPICAL SCHEDULE IF TAKING COURSES IN SUMMER, FALL AND SPRING:

	Summer	Fall	Spring
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 530 Physics Math Methods for Educators • EDCI 519 Response to Intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 531 Classical Mechanics for Educators • EDCI 514 Management and Curriculum Development for Diverse Learners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 532 Electricity and Magnetism for Educators • EDCI 517 Reading and Learning
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 526 Quantum Universe for Educators OR PHYS 535 Thermodynamics for Educators • ETEC 524 Introduction to Educational Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 561 Astronomy and Astrophysics for Educators • RDG 516 Foundations of Reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 595 Research Literature • EDCI 515 Evidence-Based Teaching

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Please consult with your academic advisor (robynne.lock@tamuc.edu) or certification coordinator (tracey.stedman@tamuc.edu) if you need help picking from the classes, but please do that as soon as possible.
- Please consult the certification coordinator (tracey.stedman@tamuc.edu) if you need help with teacher certification requirements.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES

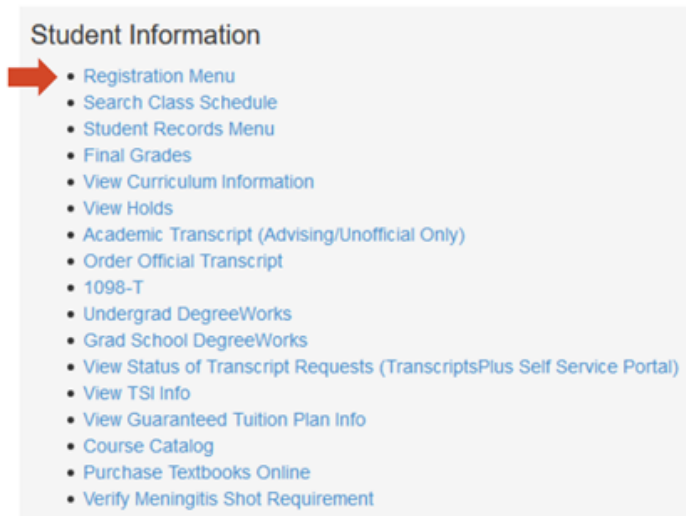
Use the following link to access the graduate-level courses for your program in the schedule of classes. There you will have access to textbooks required, instructor c/v, and syllabi information: <https://appsprod.tamuc.edu/Schedule/Schedule.aspx>. Graduate course numbers are 500-level and above. Below are the instructions for Accepting the Financial Agreement and Registering for courses:

Registration

To register in classes, go to the 'Student Resources' tab





Next, select 'Registration Menu'



Select 'Register/Add or Drop Classes'

Registration

-  [Select Term](#)
 - [Register/Add or Drop Classes](#)
 - [Search the Schedule of Classes](#)
 - [Change Class Options](#)
 - [Your Week at a Glance](#)
 - [Your Schedule Detail](#)
 - [Withdrawal Information](#)
 - [Your Registration Status](#)
 - [Active Registration](#)
 - [Your Registration History](#)
 -  [Purchase Textbooks](#)
[Link to Campus Bookstore](#)
-

Select a term and then submit:


Registration Term

Select a Term: 

RELEASE: 8.7.1

Next, enter the CRN (course registration number – five-digit number) in the boxes below and then submit changes:

Add Classes Worksheet

 **CRNs**

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Select **Class Search** to look for classes if you don't know the CRN or go to page 21 to learn how to find the CRN.

Check with your advisor before registration if you're unsure what to take.

Financial Responsibility Agreement

This agreement must be accepted each time registration opens. You will be prompted to accept the agreement upon attempting registration.

After reviewing your Financial Responsibility Agreement, check the box at the bottom of the agreement and select 'Continue' to proceed with registration.

Financial Responsibility Agreement

In the event of registration for any semester or term, every student is required to accept the Texas A&M University-Commerce (TAMUC) Financial Responsibility Agreement - the terms of which follow below. Registration will not be permitted if the agreement is declined.

TAMUC Financial Responsibility Agreement

Thou shalt agree to pay all University charges (tuition and fees, housing charges, meal plan, or other fees) by one of the three options stated in this agreement.

Payment is due for all term charges according to the deadline stated in the semester calendar.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

OPTION 1: I may choose to pay (and/or use financial aid to pay) my balance in FULL on or before the payment due date established by TAMUC.

- I understand that any change in my class schedule, housing assignment or meal plan option may affect my overall balance due.
- I will pay (and/or use financial aid to pay) the FULL amount due (or prior to the due date as stated in the academic calendar for any charges which serve to increase my balance due to the University).

Failure to pay in full will constitute automatic acceptance of the 4-Payment Installment Payment Option listed under OPTION 3.

OPTION 2 FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS ONLY: - I may choose to pay my balance on the Installment Payment Option. TAMUC offers a 4-Payment Installment Plan. By doing so I agree:

- to pay (and/or use my financial aid) to cover the required minimum down payment of 30% prior to the payment deadline.
- I will pay the remaining installment payments on or before the due dates specified for each installment.
- I understand that INSTALLMENT AMOUNTS MAY CHANGE over time to account for any new charges, payments, or financial aid adjustments.
- I also agree to pay the non-refundable payment plan setup fee of \$15.00 at the time of enrollment in the installment payment plan.
- I understand that a 12.00% late fee will be assessed for each installment payment that is late.
- I understand that I can enroll for this option online through MyLeo using the LeoPay link.
- I acknowledge that Texas A&M University-Commerce has the right to enroll me in the 4-Payment Installment Payment Option should I make the minimum required down payment and processing fee but fail to complete the online enrollment process through LeoPay.

OPTION 3 (Emergency Tuition Loan (interest charges only): - I may choose to borrow through the Emergency Tuition Loan option to defer payment of course charges (tuition and fees) until late in the current semester. Other term charges (housing, meal plan, or other fees) must still be paid in full as an option 1 or put on the installment payment plan (option 2).

- I understand that I must meet the Emergency Tuition Loan eligibility requirements of course enrollment for the current term and have a student account that is good standing.
- I understand that I may be denied an Emergency Tuition Loan if I have any delinquent student account balance or a registration hold caused by financial delinquency (including unpaid parking citations).
- I agree to pay the non-refundable processing fee of \$15.00 at the time of application for the Emergency Tuition Loan.
- I understand that I must enroll for this option online through MyLeo.

I understand that failure to choose a payment option by the payment deadline established by TAMUC will result in a 12% registration late payment fee. I also understand that my classes may be dropped for non-payment.

It is my understanding that should I receive any financial aid (scholarships, federal loans, grants or stipends) prior to the payment due date of the Installment Plan or Emergency Tuition Loan, those funds will be applied toward my balance owed for the semester and a refund will be issued to me for any funds balance that is available should the applied financial aid be greater than the balance due.

COMMUNICATION

The University designated address is the official method of communication by the Student Accounts Office. I acknowledge that every responsibility to check and manage my student email account so that important information can be received. Billing statements are available online and real-time account information is available through LeoPay. I understand that failure to review my online account information or billing statements does not constitute a valid excuse for not paying a bill on a timely manner.

Check this box to indicate that you have read and understand the Financial Responsibility Agreement above and agree to the terms and conditions.

(Please check the box above, then press the CONTINUE button to proceed to registration.)

HOW TO ACCESS DEGREEWORKS

Below are the instructions for accessing the DegreeWorks screen in myLeo:

DegreeWorks

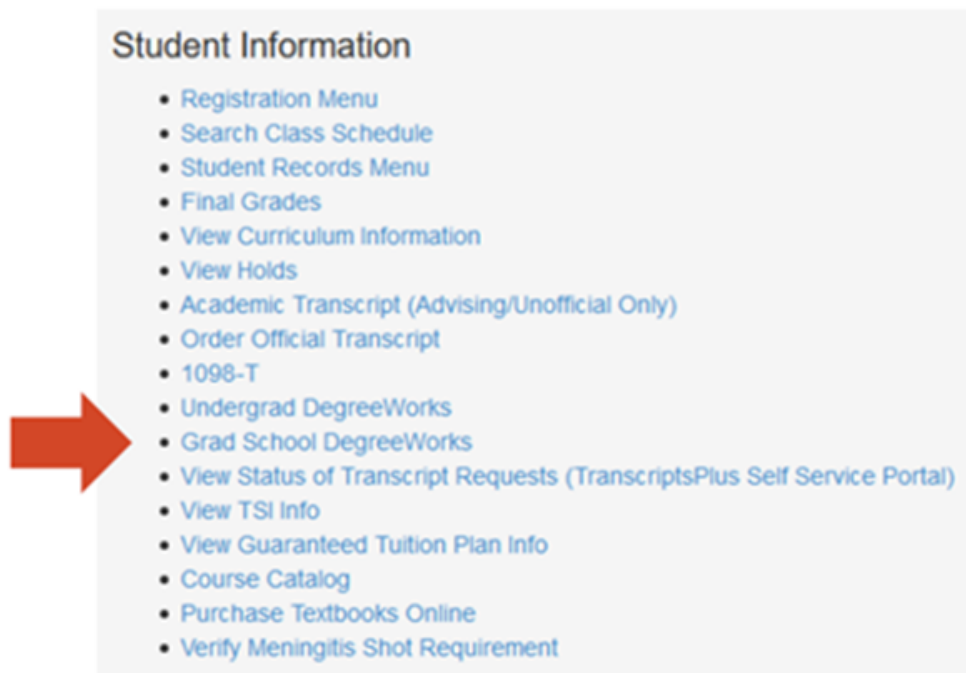
DegreeWorks is where your degree plan is managed. It will display:

- Degree requirements
- Courses you've taken and final grades (R=registered so there isn't a grade yet)
- GPA
- Advisor
- Earned hours
- Academic standing, etc.

Select the 'Student Resources' tab:



Select 'Grad School DegreeWorks' from the Student Information Menu:



IMPORTANT: Contact your advisor if any classes are displayed under the Non-Program Electives section. Courses in this section *do not count and are ineligible for financial aid.*

You can locate your faculty (academic) advisor in DegreeWorks. Under Student View there is a heading called 'Advisors'. There you will see two names:

- Louis Lufkin (is the graduate enrollment specialist for the CS program)
- The second name will be the physics faculty who is your **Academic Advisor** for the MS Physics with Teacher Certification program

WHO TO CONTACT?

Depending on your question, you need to contact the following:

Academic Advisor (robynne.lock@tamuc.edu):

- Degree plan and course advising

- Physics related questions

Graduate Office (Graduate.School@tamuc.edu):

- Thesis guidelines, deadlines and templates.