



## Career Options in **PHYSICS**

How does the universe work? What are atoms made of? While the first question is about the biggest of things, the second asks about the unimaginably small. Yet both questions fall under the scope of physics. Physics majors seek to understand the laws that govern the universe. From gigantic stars trillions of miles away to the subatomic particles within our own bodies, physics takes on matter and energy in all its forms. Physics is the scientific study of matter and energy. Topics covered include classical and modern theories, electricity and magnetism, and relativity.

**SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS:** Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of occupations related to this major. Specific requirements based on education level for each occupation may vary. For additional information and assistance, please speak with a Career Consultant.

Aerospace	Biomedical Engineer	Curator/Natural History
Aerodynamist	Callistics Expert	Energy Occupations
Agronomist	College Professor	Engineering Technician
Airline Dispatcher	Computer Programmer	Environmental Scientist
Airplane Pilot/Navigator	Computer-Systems Engineer	Nuclear Engineer
Air Traffic Controller	Consultant	Physician
Architect	Crime Laboratory Analyst	Science Technologist
	Criminalist	Zoologist

### **SAMPLE WORK SETTINGS:**

Astronaut Corps	Federal Government	Oilfields <i>Federal Government:</i>
Chemical Companies	Armed Forces	Patent Law Firms
Colleges and Universities	Hospitals	Power Plants
Electronic Firms	Laboratories	School Boards
Engineering Firms	Museums	

### **RELATED MAJOR SKILLS & CHARACTERISTICS:**

Organized	Good Vision and Manual Dexterity
Able to analyze and interpret scientific data	Independence
Proficiency with computers	Dedication
Strong Mathematical skills	Imagination

### **SAMPLE GW RESOURCES**

**GW CAREER CENTER RESOURCES:** <http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>

GWork: <http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>

Career Search: <http://careerssearch.net/gwu>

MyPlan: <http://gwu.myplan.com>

**GW DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION:** <https://www.phys.gwu.edu/>

Undergraduates: <https://www.phys.gwu.edu/index.php?page=undergraduate>

Graduates: <https://www.phys.gwu.edu/index.php?page=graduate>

## **SAMPLE WEBSITES:**

### **Career Planning Resources:**

Bureau of Labor Statistics- <http://www.bls.gov/k12/science01.htm>  
Careers in Science and Engineering- <http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/careers/contents.html>  
WFU Career Planning: <http://www.wfu.edu/physics/careers/info.html>  
SSU Physics Information: <http://www.phys-astro.sonoma.edu/advisor/Jobs.html>  
Careers in Physics: <http://scidiv.bcc.ctc.edu/Physics/Careers.html>

### **Job Search Resources:**

Job Openings in Science Careers- <http://aaas.sciencecareers.org/js.php>  
Science Jobs- <http://www.sciencejobs.com/search.action>  
Physics Today Career Network: <http://www.aip.org/pt/jobs/>  
Spires: <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/spires/jobs/>  
American Association of Physics Teachers: <http://careers.aapt.org/>  
New Scientist Jobs: <http://www.newscientistjobs.com/search.action>  
Physics Web: <http://www.physicsweb.org/jobs/jobsearch>

### **Professional Organizations & Associations:**

American Association for the Advancement of Science- <http://www.aaas.org>  
American Institute of Physics: [www.aip.org](http://www.aip.org)  
National Academy of Sciences- <http://www.nas.edu/>  
Society of Physics Students: [www.aip.org/education/sps/](http://www.aip.org/education/sps/)  
American Center for Physics: [www.acp.org](http://www.acp.org)  
American Association of Physics Teachers: [www.aapt.org](http://www.aapt.org)  
American Association of Physicists in Medicine: [www.aapm.org](http://www.aapm.org)  
American Physical Society: [www.aps.org](http://www.aps.org)  
Educational Realms: [www.ericse.org](http://www.ericse.org)  
JILA: <http://jilawww.colorado.edu/>

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