The Physics Department at UW-La Crosse is one of the largest undergraduate physics programs in Wisconsin and is well-known for offering quality education, placing its graduates in successful career paths, and attracting national recognition for its successful efforts.

The diverse nature of the physics program makes our graduates highly sought after in modern industries where physics and engineering are applied. In addition, many UW-La Crosse physics graduates are accepted into top graduate degree programs where they can pursue a master’s or doctoral degree in physics, engineering, chemistry, astrophysics, optical science, mathematics, medicine, or computer science.

In addition to our unique programs, the Physics Department also stands out in its emphasis on involving its physics majors in undergraduate research. This engages students to work closely with individual members of the faculty, providing hands-on learning opportunities which are very different from the traditional classroom experience. The involvement of students in research contributes to the sense of community that pervades the UW-La Crosse Physics Department. Research projects are available in the following areas: astrophysics, biomechanics, computational physics, laser spectroscopy, quantum computing, material science, nuclear physics, solid-state physics, and physics education.

2018-19 Faculty/Staff

The following is the department’s faculty and staff as of the publication date of this catalog. This list will not be updated again until the next catalog is published in June.

Professor

Eric Barnes, Ph.D.
Eric Gansen, Ph.D.
T.A.K. Pillai, Ph.D.
Robert Ragan, Ph.D.
Shauna Sallmen, Ph.D.
Gubbi Sudhakaran, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Jennifer Docktor, Ph.D.
Taviare Hawkins, Ph.D.
Seth King, Ph.D.
Shelly Lesher, Ph.D.

Lecturer

Roberto Salgado, Ph.D.
Steven Verrall, Ph.D.
Lyndon Zink, Ph.D.

Administrative and Technical Support

Krista Anderson
Stephen Harris
Sarah Lantvit, Ph.D.

Majors

- Physics major - BA (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/physics-ba)
- Physics major - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/physics-bs)
- Physics major with applied physics emphasis - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/applied-bs/#majorrequirementstext)
- Physics major with astronomy emphasis - BA (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/astronomy-ba)
- Physics major with astronomy emphasis - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/astronomy-bs)
- Physics major with biomedical concentration - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/biomedical-bs)
- Physics major with business concentration - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/business-bs)
- Physics major with computational physics emphasis - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/computational-physics-bs)
- Physics major with optics emphasis - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/optics-bs)
- Physics education major (early adolescence-adolescence certification) - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/education)
- Dual degree program in physics and engineering (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/dual-degree-physics-engineering)
- Dual degree program in physics and physical therapy (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/dual-degree-physics-physical-therapy)
- General science education (broad field) major (early adolescence-adolescence certification) - second major only (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/general-science-education)

Minors

- Physics minor (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/physicsminor)
- Physics minor with astronomy emphasis (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/physicsminorwithastronomy)
- Physics education minor (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/physicseducationminor)
Honors

- Physics and astronomy honors program (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/physics/honors-program)