

# THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Physics & Physical Oceanography- BS  
129 Credits Total

FALL 2025-SPRING 2026

## ABOUT THE PHYSICS AND PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHY DEGREE:

The BS in Physics and Physical Oceanography program is unique in the entire United States. It is jointly offered by the Physics Department and the Graduate School of Oceanography. Students in this program are optimally prepared for graduate studies in oceanography.

### STEP 1:

#### Major Requirements:

Course	Semester	Credits	Grade
PHY 203/273*		4	
PHY 204/274*		4	
PHY 205/275*		4	
PHY 306		3	
PHY 322		3	
PHY 331		3	
PHY 381		3	
PHY 382		3	
PHY 401		1	
PHY 410		3	
PHY 420		3	
PHY 452		3	
PHY 451		3	
PHY 483†		3	
PHY 484†		3	
MTH 4_____		3	

† Senior physics research project (PHY 483/484) will be taken at the Graduate School of Oceanography under the supervision of a GSO faculty member.

\*Course counts for general education credit

#### Additional Major Requirements:

Course	Semester	Credits	Grade
MTH 141*		4	
MTH 142*		4	
MTH 215		3	
MTH 243*		3	
MTH 244		3	
CHM 101*/102		4	
CSC 201* or 211		4	
OCG 110*		3	
OCG 123G*		4	
OCG 501		3	
OCG 510		3	
MCE 354		3	

#### Free elective credits

(to meet the 129 credits required for graduation):

Course	Credits	Course	Credits

It is recommended that students planning to attend an oceanography graduate school take PHY 520: Classical Dynamics. Students wishing to keep open the options of physics at the graduate level should take PHY 452: Quantum Mechanics.

**Please note: Both major and cumulative GPA must be 2.00 or higher in order to graduate.**

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### STEP 3:

General Education Outcome Audit	
	Course
<b>KNOWLEDGE</b>	
A1. STEM	
A2. Social & Behavioral Sciences	
A3. Humanities	
A4. Arts & Design	
<b>COMPETENCIES</b>	
B1. Write effectively	
B2. Communicate effectively	
B3. Mathematical, statistical, or computational strategies	
B4. Information literacy	
<b>RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	
C1. Civic knowledge & responsibilities	
C2. Global responsibilities	
C3. Diversity and Inclusion	
<b>INTEGRATE &amp; APPLY</b>	
D1. Ability to synthesize	
<b>GRAND CHALLENGE</b>	
G. Check that at least one course of your 40 credits is an approved "G" course	

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