

Objectives Of The Department

- To provide the background necessary for understanding the highly scientific age in which we live.
- To prepare students for careers and for graduate work in Physics and other closely allied fields.
- To furnish pre-professional work for those preparing for a career in science and related fields.
- To prepare teachers in subject matter and methods for the teaching of Physics, Physical Science and related fields.

Degree Options Available

- **Physics Option** – Bachelor of Arts /Bachelor of Science Degree
- **Physics Comprehensive Option** – Bachelor of Science Degree
- **Physical Science Option** – Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Science Degree
- **Physics 7-12 Teaching Subject Endorsement Option** – Bachelor of Science in Education Degree
- **Physical Science 7-12 Teaching Field Endorsement Option** – Bachelor of Science in Education Degree

Activities

The department has pioneered development of activity-oriented classes in the physical sciences and more recently in the general physics courses. Many of our courses provide students with hands on experience that has been demonstrated to promote critical thinking skills.



Research

Our students have the opportunity to pursue research on campus in projects engaged in by faculty, which include but are not limited to the following:

- **Lasers and Optics**
- **Nuclear Physics**
- **Astronomy**
- **Physics Education**
- **Solid State Physics**
- **Atmospheric Physics**

Additionally, in December 2009, the Department of Physics and Physical Science will have a new state of the art planetarium located in the Bruner Hall of Science. This will provide students and faculty with further research opportunities.

Opportunities

The options for students who have completed a Physics Degree are quite varied. Graduates of University of Nebraska at Kearney are pursuing successful careers in the Air Force, the Nuclear Navy and a number of engineering areas, applied sciences and secondary teaching. Students who pursued advanced degrees have had success in many areas: Astrophysics, Medical Physics, Atmospheric Science, Solid State Physics and university teaching.

Faculty & Staff

Chair
David Amstutz

Professor
Jose Mena-Werth

Associate Professors
Mark Markes
Robert Price

Assistant Professors
Liubov Kreminska
Michael Larsen
Trecia Markes

For more information contact
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Physics & Physical Science

Course Areas:

- **Physics**
- **Science Education**
- **Astronomy**
- **Electronics**
- **Quantum Mechanics**
- **Thermodynamics**
- **Mathematical Physics**
- **Physical Science**
- **Earth Science**
- **Meteorology**
- **Modern Physics**
- **Optics**
- **Theoretical Physics**

Programs & Facilities

- **BS & BA Physics**
- **BS & BA Physical Science**
- **Pre Engineering**
- **TeachingEndorsement/ MSED in Physics & Physical Science**
- **Optical Research Lab**
- **Pre Architecture**
- **Pre Meteorology**
- **Pre Oceanography**
- **Planetarium**
- **Observatory**
- **Atmospheric Physics Lab**