The LAS Specialized Curriculum in Physics is designed for students who plan to pursue graduate study in physics or a closely allied field. However, students who want to pursue a combined major and minor, a double major, or a double degree should consider the LAS Science and Letters Curriculum in Physics because of the greater flexibility it offers.

Entering freshmen typically take calculus, chemistry, rhetoric, and PHYS 110 during the first semester and begin the general physics sequence in the second semester. Students with advance placement in mathematics should begin the general physics sequence in the first semester. All students are strongly encouraged to plan ahead to allow space in their programs for undergraduate research.

Departmental distinction: Graduation with distinctions awarded to students who complete 8 additional hours of 300- or 400-level physics courses or advanced courses in closely related technical subjects and who have attained cumulative grade point averages as follows: distinction, 3.5; high distinction, 3.8; highest distinction, 3.8 plus acknowledgement of truly outstanding work/research.

Minimum required major and supporting course work: A minimum of 126 hours required for graduation.

GPA requirements: Students in the Specialized Curriculum beyond the freshman year must maintain an overall grade point average of at least 2.5 and also a grade point average of 2.5 in all required mathematics and physics courses.