PHYSICS

SCHEDULE BASICS

- Refer to the undergraduate catalog at http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/registrar/catalog.cfm to see your major requirements.
- As a freshman, you can take only 1000/2000 level courses.
- A full-time student schedule is 12-18 credit hours. The typical first-semester schedule for this major is 14-16 credit hours.
- Foreign language is required for Physics BA majors.
- This is a first draft of your schedule; you can finalize your schedule during summer orientation.

FIRST SEMESTER PRIORITY COURSES—Your first-semester schedule should include these classes:

Ideally, you should be registered for a math course. See below for placement information:

SAT SCORES

If you scored a 540 or higher on the math portion of the SAT, sign up for MATH 1065.

If you scored a 600 or higher on the math portion of the SAT, sign up for MATH 2121.

If you scored a 530 or lower on the math portion of the SAT, do NOT sign up for math! You must take the Accuplacer Placement Test during Summer Orientation.

ACT SCORES

If you scored a 20 or higher on the ACT, sign up for MATH 1065.

If you scored a 25 or higher on the ACT, sign up for MATH 1083 or 1085.

If you scored a 28 or higher on the ACT, sign up for MATH 2171.

Math

If you scored a 19 or below, do NOT sign up for math. You must take the Accuplacer Placement Test during Summer Orientation.

AP CREDIT for Calculus

If you scored a 3, 4, or 5 on the Calculus AB or BC Test, you will receive credit for calculus HOWEVER, we will not receive AP scores until mid-July. Therefore, we ask that you use the SAT or ACT criteria above to register for the appropriate math class just as a placeholder. This is important because you need a math on your schedule in order to register for CHEM 1150/1151. Then, once you meet with an advisor during orientation, we will advise you how to adjust your math (and after AP scores come in) so that you can take the higher level math course.

TRANSFER CREDIT

If you are bringing in transfer credit (example: from a community college) for college algebra or calculus, don't worry about adding a math to your schedule. You can discuss this with your advisor during orientation.

It is recommended that you take CHEM 1150/1151 (General Chemistry I with lab). Good math skills are required to succeed in chemistry. In order to be eligible to register for these courses, students must have at least one of the following: (1) Math SAT is 540 or higher, (2) Math ACT is 23 or higher, or (3) Accuplacer Mathematics Placement Test (taken during Orientation) of 120 or higher.

Note: If you plan to take CHEM 0150 or 1150/1151, you must also be registered for MATH 1065. If you are unable to register for MATH 1065, then you cannot add CHEM 0150 or 1150/1151.

Chemistry

Note: CHEM 0150 is a chemistry prep course designed to familiarize you with basic chemistry topics in preparation for progressing to General Chemistry. If this course is being offered, you may choose to take it if you feel you do not have a good chemistry background.

Note: If you plan to take CHEM 0150 or 1150/1151, you must also be registered for MATH 1065. If you are unable to register for MATH 1065, then you cannot add CHEM 0150 or 1150/1151.

Note: If you plan to take CHEM 1150/1151, you must also be registered for MATH 1065. If you are unable to register for MATH 1065, then you cannot add CHEM 1150/1151.

FIRST SEMESTER RECOMMENDED COURSES—Options to complete your schedule include:

Normally you would not yet take a Physics course – your first physics course (PHYS 2350) has calculus I (MATH 2171) as a prerequisite. You should aim to take PHYS 2350 by the fall semester of your sophomore year – this puts you on track to graduate in 4 years with a major in Physics. In addition to the courses listed above, you should consider adding HLTH 1000-Health in Modern Society, EXSS 1000-Lifetime Physical Activity and Fitness Lab, or ENGL 1100-Foundations of College Writing sometime within your first two semesters. You can also add a social science, humanities, or fine arts course. Examples of these courses can be found under Port 2 of the PIER website "Foundations Curriculum Options".

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Refer to www.ecu.edu/advising and select "Degree Plans" to see sample 4-year plans for every major.

FINAL THOUGHTS/ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Create a schedule following the instructions above. Please do not worry if you are unable to register for all of your courses since academic advisors can help you when you attend orientation! The important thing to remember is to make sure you sign up for at least 12 credit hours of courses (e.g., foundations curriculum courses) so that a bill can be generated (and any financial aid paperwork can be processed).
- Are you interested in a **Pre-Professional Program**? If so, visit www.ecu.edu/ppac for important information.