

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	AP10001
Subject Title	Introduction to Physics
Credit Value	3
Level	1
Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Exclusion: AP1D03 "How Things Work: the Physics of Everyday Life"
Objectives	This is a subject designed for students with no background in physics studies. Fundamental concepts in major topics of physics (mechanics, heat, wave and electromagnetism) will be discussed. The aim of this subject is to equip students with some basic physics knowledge, and to appreciate its applications in various branches of science and technology.
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) solve simple problems in kinematics Newton's law and Energy; (b) solve problems in heat capacity and latent heat; (c) explain phenomena related to the wave character of light; (d) apply the superposition of waves; (e) understand electrostatic field and potential; (f) solve problems on interaction between current and magnetic field; and (g) describe and demonstrate the phenomenon of electromagnetism.
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<p>Mechanics: scalars and vectors; kinematics and dynamics; Newton's laws; momentum, impulse, work and energy; conservation of momentum and conservation of energy.</p> <p>Thermal physics: heat and internal energy; heat capacity; conduction, convection and radiation; latent heat.</p> <p>Waves: nature of waves; wave motion; reflection and refraction; image formation by mirrors and lenses; superposition of waves; standing waves; diffraction and interference; electromagnetic spectrum; sound waves.</p> <p>Electromagnetism: charges; Coulomb's law; electric field and potential; current and resistance; Ohm's law; magnetic field; magnetic force on moving charges and current-carrying conductors; Faraday's law and Lenz's law.</p>
Teaching/Learning Methodology	<p>Lecture: Fundamentals in mechanics, waves and electromagnetism will be explained. Examples will be used to illustrate the concepts and ideas in the lecture. Students are free to request help. Homework problem sets will be given.</p> <p>Student-centered Tutorial: Students will work on a set of problems in tutorials. Students are encouraged to solve problems and to use their own knowledge to verify their solutions before seeking assistance. These problem sets provide them opportunities to apply their knowledge gained from the lecture. They also help the students to consolidate what they have learned. Furthermore, students can develop a deeper understanding of the subject in relation to daily life phenomena or experience.</p>

