

Natural Science

In the College of Sciences

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Faculty

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Faculty: Fisher (Biology), Goldberg (Physics), Kimbrough (Geological Sciences), Metzger (Chemistry), Riggs (Geological Sciences), Roeder, S. (Physics)

Offered by Natural Science

Teaching major in physical science for the single subject teaching credential in science.

Minor in history of science and technology.

The Major

The physical science major is offered as an interdisciplinary approach to the study of science. It stresses the interrelationship of physics with chemistry, geology, astronomy, biology, and mathematics. The major is designed primarily for students who intend to become high school teachers of both interdisciplinary science and physics.

Physical Science Major

In preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Science/Physical Science

With the B.S. Degree in Applied Arts and Sciences
(Major Code: 19011)

One of the requirements for acceptance into the College of Education's post-baccalaureate credentialing program is to either pass the appropriate PRAXIS and SSAT examinations or complete an approved academic program. The single subject teaching credential in science subject matter preparation program described below satisfies the academic requirements for a student planning to teach integrated science and physics at the secondary level. Entrance into the post-baccalaureate credentialing program in part requires certification of subject matter competency by this program. This certification requires completion of the academic program with the required grades, submission of a satisfactory portfolio, and the recommendation of the department. Contact the subject matter preparation program adviser. In addition, all candidates for a Single Subject Teaching credential at San Diego State University with the Cross-Cultural, Language, and Academic Development (CLAD) emphasis must complete the requirements outlined in the catalog under Teacher Education or Policy Studies. Contact the School of Teacher Education or the Policy Studies in Language and Cross-Cultural Education Department for up-to-date information on prerequisites.

General Education Requirements. Students will complete a minimum of 49 units in General Education to include a minimum of nine upper division units. No more than 12 units may be used for General Education credit from any one department or academic unit. No more than 7 units from one department can be used in Sections II, III, and IV combined (Foundations, American Institutions, and Explorations).

I. Communication and Critical Thinking (9 units)

You may *not* use Credit/No Credit grades in this section.

1. **Oral Communication (3 units)** to be satisfied by Africana Studies 140, Chicana and Chicano Studies 111A, or Communication 103.

2. **Composition (3 units)** to be satisfied by Africana Studies 120, Chicana and Chicano Studies 111B, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 100.

3. **Intermediate Composition and Critical Thinking (3 units)** to be satisfied by Africana Studies 200 or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200.

II. Foundations (28 units)

A. **Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning (13 units):**

1. **Physical Sciences (6 units)** to be satisfied by Chemistry 200 and Physics 195.

2-3. **Life Sciences and Laboratory (4 units)** to be satisfied by Biology 201.

4. **Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (3 units)** to be satisfied by Mathematics 150.

B. **Social and Behavioral Sciences (6 units).** See Graduation Requirements section of the catalog.

C. **Humanities (9 units):**

Complete a course in each of three of the following four areas (1. Literature; 2. Art, Classics, Humanities, Music, and Theatre; 3. Philosophy and Religious Studies; 4. Foreign Language) in the Humanities section of the Foundations component of the regular General Education program. Refer to General Education course offerings in the Graduation Requirements section of the catalog. One semester of a foreign language is recommended.

III. American Institutions

Three units of the six units of coursework which meet the American Institutions graduation requirement may be used in General Education, excluding courses numbered 500 and above.

IV. Explorations (9 units)

A. **Upper division Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 units).** Linguistics 420 is recommended.

B. **Upper division Humanities to be satisfied by History 441 (3 units).**

C. **Upper division Humanities (3 units).** A course in cultural diversity is required. Refer to Part C of Explorations under the General Education requirements section in the catalog.

The Major

Preparation for the Major. Africana Studies 140, Chicana and Chicano Studies 111A, or Communication 103; Africana Studies 120, Chicana and Chicano Studies 111B, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 100; Africana Studies 200 or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200; Astronomy 101, 109; Biology 201, 202; Chemistry 200, 201; Computer Engineering 160 or Computer Science 106 or 205; Geological Sciences 100, 101; Mathematics 150, 151, 252; Physics 195, 195L, 196, 196L, 197, 197L. (63 units)

Upper Division Writing Requirement. Passing the University Writing Examination or completing one of the approved writing courses with a grade of C (2.0) or better.

Major. A minimum of 36 upper division units to include Biology 452; Oceanography 541; Physics 311, 340A-340B, 350, 354, 357, 360, 400A; three units selected from Natural Science 333 or Physics 301; and six units selected from Natural Science 305, 315, 316, or Physics 400B, 406, 499.

Additional Requirements for Subject Matter

Preparation Certification

Satisfactory Grades. At most one course with a C- or lower among the courses listed under Preparation for the Major, and at most one course with a C- or lower among the courses listed under the Major. If a course is repeated, the highest grade will count.

Formative Assessment. Completion of a satisfactory, preliminary portfolio two semesters prior to graduation. Contact the subject matter preparation adviser for information.

Summative Assessment. Completion of a satisfactory, final portfolio, and a positive recommendation from a committee consisting of the instructor of Physics 357, the Department of Physics chair, and the subject matter preparation program adviser.

Minor in History of Science and Technology

The minor in the history of science and technology consists of a minimum of 18 units to include Natural Science 315 and 316, and 12 units selected from Natural Science 317; History 484, 485; Mathematics 303; Philosophy 537.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy requirements for preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses (N SCI)

LOWER DIVISION COURSE

100. Physical Science (3) I, II

Introduction to concepts and processes in science intended to show why science is essential to a liberal education by recognizing relationship with other areas of knowledge such as philosophy, literature, fine arts, economics. Emphasis varies with instructor.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

305. Quantum Reality - From Quarks to Quasars (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirements in Communication and Critical Thinking and Foundations II.A., Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning.

Universe viewed from small (elementary particles) to very large (cosmology) with emphasis on structural aspects of physical theories of the universe and how they came to be formed.

315. History of Science I (3)

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.A., Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning, and one of the following courses: Humanities 101, History 100, 101, 105, 106. Recommended: Astronomy 101. General Education prerequisite not required for Physical Science majors.

The growth and development of science from antiquity to the fifteenth century. Emphasis on man's cognitive reactions to his environment through the coalescence of the occult arts, empirical practices and rational thought associated with early scientific theory.

316. History of Science II (3)

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.A., Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning, and one of the following courses: Humanities 101, History 100, 101, 105, 106. Recommended: Astronomy 101 and a course in chemistry. General Education prerequisite not required for Physical Science majors.

The major developments during the sixteenth through nineteenth centuries of the scientific revolution, the rise of empiricism, the emerging role of scientific societies. Histories of particular theories in both the life sciences and physical sciences.

317. Development of Scientific Thought (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.A., Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning.

Basic scientific concepts and their historical development with emphasis on the problem of theory construction. The relationship between disciplined imagination and observational fact, as illustrated by selected case histories. Limitations of scientific inquiry.

333. Technology and Human Values (3) II

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.A., Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning. Recommended: Natural Science 100.

Technologies such as solar and fusion power, lasers, computer services, transport, synthetic food and their impact on values and lifestyles of developed countries. Characteristics of post-industrial society, future shock and biological revolution. Curve extrapolation and simulation by games and computer.

412A-412B-412C-412D. Processes and Inquiry in the Natural Sciences (4-4-4-4) I, II

Three lectures and two hours of activity.

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.A., Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning.

Investigation of processes of inquiry and rational thinking skills characteristic of the sciences.

- A. Physical Sciences
- B. Properties of Matter and Astronomy
- C. Life Sciences
- D. Earth Sciences

UPPER DIVISION COURSE (Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

596. Special Topics in Natural Science (1-4) I, II, S

Prerequisite: Minimum ten units of natural science.

Selected topics in natural science for preservice and inservice elementary and secondary teachers and candidates for the M.A. in education. May be repeated with consent of instructor. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum combined credit of six units of 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

GRADUATE COURSES

Refer to Bulletin of the Graduate Division.