

Open Elective Papers

Paper to be offered to Non-Physics Postgraduate students

PHY-321: Modern Physics

Nuclear physics: A brief overview of nuclear physics. Nuclear reactions, a brief description of nuclear models. Interactions of X-rays and γ -rays with matter, slowing down and absorption of neutrons. Fundamental particles, classification of fundamental particles, fundamental forces, conservation laws in particle physics, a brief outline of the quark model.

Nuclear power: Nuclear fission, fission chain reaction, self sustaining reaction, uncontrolled reaction, nuclear bomb. Nuclear reactors, different types of reactors and reactors in India. Nuclear waste management. Nuclear fusion, fusion reactions in the atmosphere. Radiation effects; dosage calculation. Nuclear energy; applications and disadvantages. **[16 hours]**

Condensed matter physics: Amorphous and crystalline state of matter. Crystal systems. Liquid crystals. X-ray diffraction; Bragg equation. Structure of NaCl. FTIR; Experiment analysis. NMR; Experiment and analysis. Electrical conductivity of metals and semiconductor. Magnetic materials; para,ferro, ferri and anti-magnetism. Dielectrics—para, ferro, pyro and piezo properties. Symmetry in physics. **[16 hours]**

Quantum physics: Qualitative discussion. Molecules, atoms, nucleus, nucleons, quarks and gluons. Particle physics (qualitative). Stern-Gerlach experiment and consequences. Uncertainty relation. Hydrogen atom. Positron annihilation. Laser trapping and cooling. Ion traps. Electromagnetic, strong, weak and Gravitational forces. Big Bang theory, String theory. Large Hadron Collider experiment, consequences. Higgs Boson. **[16 hours]**

Tutorial **[16 hours]**

Total work load **64 hours**

References:

1. Ghoshal S.N., Atomic and nuclear physics, Vol.2., S. Chand and Company, Delhi, 1994.
2. Evans R.D., Atomic nucleus, Tata Mc Grow Hill, New Delhi, 1976.
3. Penrose R., Road to Reality, Vintage Books, 2007.
4. Ladd M.F.C. and Palmer R.A., Structure determination by X-ray crystallography, Plenum Press, USA, 2003.
5. De Gennes P.G. and Prost J., The physics of liquid crystals, 2nd Edn., Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1998.
6. Myer R., Kennard E.H. and Lauritsern T., Introduction to modern physics, 5th Edn., McGraw- Hill, New York, 1955.
7. Halliday D., Resnick R. and Merryl J., Fundamentals of physics, Extended 3rd Edn., John Wiley, New York, 1988.