“In high school I enjoyed math and science and felt that physics would be a good personal challenge,” said Joshua Moravec. “What I liked most about the UNK physics department is I formed very good relationships with professors and staff that allowed meaningful research work.”

The 2013 UNK graduate majored in physics comprehensive, minored in both math and Japanese, and did undergraduate research – all of which he says improved his learning skills. “Through those experiences I was able to more quickly understand problems and solve them.”

Moravec chose UNK because of the small class size. “I didn't want to take classes with hundreds of other people.”

Now Moravec is a lead software quality assurance analyst at Phynd Technologies in Kearney, Neb. and handles many responsibilities including managing the quality assurance process, which includes creating test plans, test cases and task estimations.

PHYSICS COMPREHENSIVE

Students who enjoy math and are curious about learning what makes a plane fly, a wineglass sing or how to move water without touching it are prime candidates for a physics comprehensive major. At UNK, class sizes are small and allow you to get to know your instructors, ask for help or receive advice in a comfortable atmosphere. Undergraduate physics majors engage in active research with a faculty mentor and often travel to various conferences such as Women in Physics, National Conference on Undergraduate Research, and American Physical Society to present their research to peers.

Physicists are an excellent match for science, engineering and technology jobs because of their breadth of analysis, problem-solving and project-managements skills, and depth of science and math training.

Alumni profile

Did you know?

Student-faculty relationships are a hallmark of the UNK experience.

Faculty interact on a personal basis with students as teachers, advisers, mentors and friends both inside and outside the classroom, and from your freshman year to graduation and beyond.

Reasons to study physics at UNK

- Faculty members in the physics department love making science comprehensible to students.
- Undergraduates are encouraged to work with a faculty member in “hands-on training” doing research.
- Learning physics challenges imaginations and can lead to great discoveries that impact the world.

Traits needed for success in physics

- “Eats, lives and breathes” science
- Enjoys math
- Knows fundamental computer skills
- Asks questions
- Uses logical reasoning
- Pays attention to details
- Perseveres
- Solves problems
- Communicates well
- Works independently and collaborates on a team

Modern technology is physics-based. Any technology using light, sound, electricity, magnetism, heat, optics or mechanics comes from physics.
PHYSICS COMPREHENSIVE Bachelor of Science
FOUR YEAR CLASS SCHEDULE
The schedule is a guideline for progress toward a degree. Consult with your academic adviser.

F .Y.I – For your information
High school students thinking about studying physics in college should take as many advanced classes as possible in science and math. This will provide a foundation for college coursework. UNK physics graduates find employment in industrial settings and government labs, or on college campuses, as well as in other science and technology fields. Unconventional settings include newspapers and magazines, and in government or business – any place where problem-solving and analytical skills are great assets.

Society of Physics Students
The Society of Physics Students is a professional association open to anyone interested in physics. Within SPS is the national physics honor society, Sigma Pi Sigma, for members who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement.
- Biweekly meetings
- Community-building events
- Physics conferences
- SPS/Sigma Pi Sigma banquet
- School science fair judging
- High school senior recruiting days
- Movie nights in the UNK planetarium

Scholarships Available
• Donald L. Liehs Scholarship Endowment
• Dr. Mary L. Morse Memorial Scholarship
• James W. Nielsen Memorial Scholarship
• Elmer H. and Marian L. Beckman Scholarship

F.Y.I – For your information
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