



Course Specification

(Postgraduate Programs)

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Course Title: | Advanced Solid-State Physics |
| Course Code: | PHY 6161 |
| Program: | Master of Science in Physics |
| Department: | Physics |
| College: | Science |
| Institution: | Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud Islamic University |
| Version: | 3 |
| Last Revision Date: | 26/09/2024 |



Table of Contents

| | |
|---|---|
| A. General information about the course: | 3 |
| B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods: | 4 |
| C. Course Content: | 5 |
| D. Students Assessment Activities: | 6 |
| E. Learning Resources and Facilities: | 7 |
| F. Assessment of Course Quality: | 7 |
| G. Specification Approval Data: | 8 |





A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification:

1. Credit hours: 4

2. Course type

A. ☐ University ☐ College ☒ Department ☐ Track

B. ☒ Required ☐ Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: Level 2/Year 1

4. Course General Description:

The aim of this course is to give an extended knowledge of the principles and techniques of solid-state physics. It is at the level of first-year graduate students and will deepen the understanding already gained through the introduction to solid-state physics. Topics covered include the Drude and Sommerfeld models of metal, the determination of crystal structures by X-Ray diffraction and electron levels in a periodic potential. Fundamental theories are introduced and then extended to show the irrelevance to important applications in current-day technology, industry, and research.

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any): None

6. Pre-requirements for this course (if any): None

7. Course Main Objective(s):

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of fundamental concepts in advanced solid-state physics.
- Illustrate the concepts of free electron gas model, spin-spin interaction, disorder in solids and their applications and the contact phenomena.
- Solve problems in several topics in advanced solid-state physics.

2. Teaching Mode: (mark all that apply)

| No | Mode of Instruction | Contact Hours | Percentage |
|----|-----------------------|---------------|------------|
| 1 | Traditional classroom | 75 | 100% |
| 2 | E-learning | | |
| 3 | Hybrid | | |





| No | Mode of Instruction | Contact Hours | Percentage |
|----|---|---------------|------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional classroom E-learning | | |
| 4 | Distance learning | | |

3. Contact Hours: (based on the academic semester)

| No | Activity | Contact Hours |
|----|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Lectures | 45 |
| 2. | Laboratory/Studio | 0 |
| 3. | Field | 0 |
| 4. | Tutorial | 30 |
| 5. | Others (specify)..... | 0 |
| | Total | 75 |

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods:

| Code | Course Learning Outcomes | Code of PLOs aligned with the program | Teaching Strategies | Assessment Methods |
|------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1.0 | Knowledge and understanding | | | |
| 1.1 | Recognize different aspects of advanced solid state physics and solve related problems. | K1,K2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures. Tutorials. Class discussions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exams. Participation. Discussions. |
| 1.2 | Describe and perform simple calculations in different electron model by using Hartree- Fock theory and the spin-spin interaction model concept and its importance in physics. | K1,K3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures. Tutorials. Class discussions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exams. Homework. Quizzes. |
| 1.3 | Interpret the basic concepts of superconductivity and their applications. | K1, K2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures. Class discussions. Tutorials. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation. Exams. Discussions. Homework. |





| Code | Course Learning Outcomes | Code of PLOs aligned with the program | Teaching Strategies | Assessment Methods |
|------|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 2.0 | Skills | | | |
| 2.1 | Explain and summarize the basic knowledge gained from studying solid-state physics course. | S1, S2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures. • Class discussions. • Tutorials. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exams. ▪ Discussions. ▪ Participation. |
| 2.2 | Develop the students ability to solve and analyze problems in physics related the topics covered by the course. | S2, S3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem classes and group tutorial. • Homework assignments as well as problems solutions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exams. ▪ Discussions. ▪ Homework. |
| 2.3 | Communicate in a clear and concise manner orally, and using IT for acquiring and analyzing information. | S4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures. • Class discussions. • Tutorials. • Encourage students to use electronic mail and internal network for submitting homework and assignments. • Use digital library. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exams. ▪ Participation and activities of students in the course community and blackboard. ▪ Homework. |
| 3.0 | Values, autonomy, and responsibility | | | |
| 3.1 | Show the collaboration and inter-professionalism in class discussions or team works, as well as solve problems independently. | V1, V2, V3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small team tasks • Open discussion at classroom. • Office hours. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participation ▪ Homework. ▪ Mini-project(s). |

C. Course Content:

| No | List of Topics | Contact Hours |
|----|--|---------------|
| 1. | The Drude's Theory of Metals: Basic assumptions of the model, Collision or relaxation times, DC electrical conductivity, Hall effect and magnetoresistance, AC electrical conductivity, Dielectric function and plasma resonance, Thermal conductivity, Thermoelectric effects. | 10 |



| | | |
|-------|--|----|
| 2. | The Sommerfeld Theory of Metals: Fermi-Dirac distribution, Free electrons, Density of allowed wave vectors, Fermi momentum, energy, and temperature, Ground-state energy and bulk modulus, Thermal properties of a free electron gas, Sommerfeld theory of conduction, Wiedemann-Franz law. | 10 |
| 3. | Crystal Lattice: Bravais Lattice and primitive vectors, Simple, body-centered, and face-centered cubic lattices, Primitive unit cell, Wigner-Seitz cell, and conventional cell, Crystal structures and lattices with bases, Hexagonal close-packed and diamond structures, Sodium chloride, Cesium chloride, and Zincblende structures. | 10 |
| 4. | The Reciprocal Lattice: Definitions and examples, First Brillouin zone, Lattice planes and Miller indices. | 8 |
| 5. | Determination of Crystal Structures by X-Ray Diffraction: Formulation of Bragg and von Laue, The Laue condition and Ewald's construction, Experimental methods, Geometrical structure factor, Atomic form factor. | 8 |
| 6. | Classification of Bravais Lattice and Crystal Structures: Symmetry operations and the classification of Bravais lattices, The seven crystal systems and fourteen Bravais lattices, Crystallographic point groups and space groups, Schoenflies and international notations, Examples from elements. | 8 |
| 7. | Electron Levels in a Periodic Potential: The periodic potential and Bloch's theorem, Born-von Karman boundary condition, A second proof of Bloch's theorem, Crystal momentum, band index, and velocity, The Fermi surface. | 5 |
| 8. | Electrons in a Weak Periodic Potential: Perturbation theory and weak periodic potentials, Energy levels near a single Bragg plane, Illustration of extended-, reduced-, and repeated-zone schemes in one dimension, Fermi surface and Brillouin zones, Geometrical structure factor, spin-orbit coupling. | 4 |
| 9. | Beyond the Independent Electron Approximation: The Hartree equations, The Hartree-Fock equations, Correlation, The dielectric function, Fermi liquid theory. | 4 |
| 10. | Classification of Solids: The spatial distribution of valence electrons, Covalent, molecular, and ionic crystals, The alkali halides, Ionic radii, metals. | 4 |
| 11. | Cohesive Energy: The noble gases, Ionic crystals, Cohesion in covalent crystals, Cohesion in metals. | 4 |
| Total | | 75 |

D. Students Assessment Activities:

| No | Assessment Activities * | Assessment timing (in week no) | Percentage of Total Assessment Score |
|----|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Class Activities (class quizzes, homework, solving problems, etc.....) | weekly | 20 % |





| No | Assessment Activities * | Assessment timing (in week no) | Percentage of Total Assessment Score |
|----|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2. | Midterm Exam 1 | 6 th week | 20 % |
| 3. | Midterm Exam 2 | 12 th week | 20 % |
| 4. | Final Exam | 16 th week | 40 % |

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Learning Resources and Facilities:

1. References and Learning Resources:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Essential References | <i>N.W. Ashcroft, N.D. Mermin, Solid State Physics, Harcourt College Publishers, 1976.</i> |
| Supportive References | <i>P. Phillips, Advanced Solid State Physics, 2nd Edition, Cambridge University Press, 2012.</i> <i>-C. Kittel, Introduction to Solid State Physics, 8th Edition, John Wiley and Sons, 2005.</i> <i>-L. M. Sander, Advanced Condensed Matter Physics, Cambridge University Press, 2009.</i> |
| Electronic Materials | https://units.imamu.edu.sa/colleges/en/science/Pages/default.aspx |
| Other Learning Materials | Multimedia associated with the textbook and the relevant websites. |

2. Educational and Research Facilities and Equipment Required:

| Items | Resources |
|---|---|
| facilities (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.) | - Classrooms - XRD research Lab |
| Technology equipment (Projector, smart board, software) | - Classroom equipped with a whiteboard and a projector. |
| Other equipment (Depending on the nature of the specialty) | |

F. Assessment of Course Quality:

| Assessment Areas/Issues | Assessor | Assessment Methods |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Effectiveness of teaching | - Students. - Second examiner | Indirect (The student will complete evaluation forms at the end of semester. Final exam is evaluated by the second examiner) |



| Assessment Areas/Issues | Assessor | Assessment Methods |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Effectiveness of students' assessment | - Instructors | Direct (exams, HW, project, ...) |
| Quality of learning resources | - Faculty - Students | Indirect (surveys) |
| The extent to which CLOs have been achieved | - Instructors - Program Leaders | Direct (excel sheet) |
| Other | | |

Assessor (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval Data:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| COUNCIL /COMMITTEE | Quality Unit-Physics Department |
| REFERENCE NO. | Department council No. 6 |
| DATE | 26/09/2024 |

