



Course Specification

(Postgraduate Programs)

Course Title: Symmetry in Physics
Course Code: PHY 6235
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:	6
F. Assessment of Course Quality:	6
G. Specification Approval Data:	7





A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification:

1. Credit hours: 3

2. Course type

A. ☐ University ☐ College ☒ Department ☐ Track

B. ☐ Required ☒ Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: Level 3 or 4/Year 2

4. Course General Description:

This course covers knowledge of broad principles of symmetry groups and gives a deep understanding of symmetry groups and their applications in diverse problems in physics. In addition, it provides mathematical tools needed for the physical symmetry problems.

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 broad principles of symmetry groups.
- Develop a deep understanding of symmetry groups and their applications in diverse problems in physics.
- Develop the knowledge of mathematical tools needed for the physical symmetry problems.

2. Teaching Mode: (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	60	100%
2	E-learning		
3	Hybrid <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	30
2.	Laboratory/Studio	0
3.	Field	0
4.	Tutorial	30
5.	Others (specify).....	0
	Total	60

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	Interpret the principles of symmetry in physics.	K1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures. Tutorials. Class discussions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exams. Participation. Discussions.
1.2	Suggest and perform a calculation by using mathematical tools.	K1, K2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures. Tutorials. Class discussions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exams. Homework. Quizzes.
1.3	Describe the Lie groups and Lie algebras.	K2, K3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures. Class discussions. Tutorials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation. Exams. Discussions. Homework.
2.0	Skills			
2.1	Explain the basic knowledge gained from studying symmetry in physics.	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	S3, S4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures. Class discussions. Tutorials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exams. Participation and activities of



Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of PLOs aligned with the program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
	using IT for acquiring and analyzing information.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage students to use electronic mail and internal network for submitting homework and assignments. Use digital library. 	students in the course community and blackboard. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.	Introduction to symmetries: The idea of Symmetry, Symmetries of the square.	10
2.	Mathematical preliminaries : Sets, Maps, and Algebras	10
3.	Discrete Groups: Finite groups, Dihedral, Cyclic, Permutation, Symmetric groups. Lagrange's Theorem. Cayley's Theorem.	10
4.	Matrix Groups and Representation Theory: Continuous Groups. Matrix groups. Vector Spaces. Representation Theory. Orthogonality Theorem. Schur's Lemmas. Characters.	10
5.	Lie Groups and Lie Algebras: Analyticity. Infinitesimal generators of Lie Groups. $so(3)$ Lie Algebra	8
6.	Application: Rotation Symmetry in Quantum Mechanics, Representations of $SO(3)$ and $SU(2)$. Ladder Operators. Hydrogen Atom.	8
7.	Introduction to symmetries: The idea of Symmetry, Symmetries of the square.	4
Total		60



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 %
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	
Supportive References	<p>-G. Hooft, M. J. G. Veltman, <i>Lie Groups in Physics</i>, Utrecht University, 2007.</p> <p>-H. Georgi, <i>Lie Algebras in Particle Physics</i>, Benjamin Cummings, 1982.</p> <p>-K. Huang, <i>Quarks, Leptons and Gauge Fields</i>, 2nd Edition, World Scientific, 1992.</p>
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.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Classrooms - Simulation rooms
Technology equipment (Projector, smart board, software)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students. - Second examiner 	Indirect (The student will complete evaluation forms at the end of



Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
		semester. Final exam is evaluated by the second examiner)
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

