

B. Sc. III Year		BPH-E601			Semester-VI	
DSE 2		ELEMENTS OF MODERN PHYSICS				
Total Lectures	Time Allotted for End Semester Examination	Marks Allotted for Continuous Assessment	Marks Allotted for End Semester Examination (ESE)	Maximum Marks (MM)	Total Credits	
60	3 Hrs	30	70	100	04	

**NOTE:** The question paper shall consist of TWO sections (Sec.-A, Sec.-B). Sec.-A shall contain 10 short answer type questions of Five mark each and student shall be required to attempt any Five questions. Sec.-B shall contain 8 descriptive type questions of ten marks each and student shall be required to attempt any four questions. Questions shall be uniformly distributed from the entire syllabus. The previous year paper/model paper can be used as a guideline and the following syllabus should be strictly followed while setting the question paper.

Planck's quantum, Planck's constant and light as a collection of photons; Photo-electric effect and Compton scattering. De Broglie wavelength and matter waves; Davisson- Germer experiment. **(8 Lectures)**

Problems with Rutherford model- instability of atoms and observation of discrete atomic spectra; Bohr's quantization rule and atomic stability; calculation of energy levels for hydrogen like atoms and their spectra. **(4 Lectures)**

Position measurement- gamma ray microscope thought experiment; Wave-particle duality, Heisenberg uncertainty principle- impossibility of a particle following a trajectory; Estimating minimum energy of a confined particle using uncertainty principle; Energy-time uncertainty principle. **(4 Lectures)**

Two slit interference experiment with photons, atoms and particles; linear superposition principle as a consequence; Matter waves and wave amplitude; Schrodinger equation for non-relativistic particles; Momentum and Energy operators; stationary states; physical interpretation of wavefunction, probabilities and normalization; Probability and probability current densities in one dimension. **(11 Lectures)**

One dimensional infinitely rigid box- energy eigenvalues and eigenfunctions, normalization; Quantum dot as an example; Quantum mechanical scattering and tunnelling in one dimension - across a step potential and across a rectangular potential barrier. **(12 Lectures)**

Size and structure of atomic nucleus and its relation with atomic weight; Impossibility of an electron being in the nucleus as a consequence of the uncertainty principle. Nature of nuclear force, NZ graph, semi-empirical mass formula and binding energy. **(6 Lectures)**

Radioactivity: stability of nucleus; Law of radioactive decay; Mean life & half-life;  $\alpha$  decay;  $\beta$  decay - energy released, spectrum and Pauli's prediction of neutrino;  $\gamma$ -ray emission. **(11 Lectures)**

Fission and fusion - mass deficit, relativity and generation of energy; Fission - nature of fragments and emission of neutrons. **(4 Lectures)**

Nuclear reactor: slow neutrons interacting with Uranium 235; Fusion and thermonuclear reactions. **(4 Lectures)**

#### Reference Books

- Concepts of Modern Physics, Arthur Beiser, 2009, McGraw-Hill
- Modern Physics, John R.Taylor, Chris D.Zafiratos, Michael A.Dubson, 2009, PHI Learning
- Six Ideas that Shaped Physics: Particle Behave like Waves, Thomas A. Moore, 2003, McGraw Hill
- Quantum Physics, Berkeley Physics Course Vol.4. E.H. Wichman, 2008, Tata McGraw-Hill Co.
- Modern Physics, R.A. Serway, C.J. Moses, and C.A.Moyer, 2005, Cengage Learning.



### **Suggested Reading**

1. Arthur Beiser : Concepts of Modern Physics
2. J.R. Taylor, C.D. Zafiratos : Modern Physics
3. Thomas A. Moore : Six Ideas that Shaped Physics: Particle Behave like Waves
4. Berkeley Physics Course : Vol.4 (Quantum Physics)
5. Serway, Moses, and Moyer : Modern Physics
6. G. Kaur and G.R. Pickrell : Modern Physics
7. B.L. Flint and H.T. Worsnop : Advanced Practical Physics for Students
8. Michael Nelson and Jon M. Ogborn : Advanced level Physics Practicals, , 4th Edition

### **Suggested Online Link:**

1. MIT Open Learning - Massachusetts Institute of Technology, <https://openlearning.mit.edu/>
2. National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL), <https://www.youtube.com/user/nptelhrd>
3. Swayam Prabha - DTH Channel, [https://www.swayamprabha.gov.in/index.php/program/current\\_he/8](https://www.swayamprabha.gov.in/index.php/program/current_he/8)

**(i) Course learning outcome:**

- Know main aspects of the inadequacies of classical mechanics and understand historical development of quantum mechanics and ability to discuss and interpret experiments that reveal the dual nature of matter.
- Understand the theory of quantum measurements, wave packets and uncertainty principle.
- Understand the central concepts of quantum mechanics: wave functions, momentum and energy operator, the Schrodinger equation, time dependent and time independent cases, probability density and the normalization techniques, skill development on problem solving e.g. one dimensional rigid box, tunneling through potential barrier, step potential, rectangular barrier.
- Understanding the properties of nuclei like density, size, binding energy, nuclear forces and structure of atomic nucleus, liquid drop model and nuclear shell model and mass formula.
- Ability to calculate the decay rates and lifetime of radioactive decays like alpha, beta, gamma decay. Neutrinos and its properties and role in theory of beta decay.
- Understand fission and fusion well as nuclear processes to produce nuclear energy in nuclear reactor and stellar energy in stars.
- Understand various interactions of electromagnetic radiation with matter. Electron positron pair creation.
- In the laboratory course, the students will get opportunity to perform the following experiments
- Measurement of Planck's constant by more than one method.
- Verification of the photoelectric effect and determination of the work Function of a metal.
- Determination of the charge of electron and e/m of electron.
- Determination of the ionization potential of atoms.
- Determine the wavelength of the emission lines in the spectrum of Hydrogen atom.
- Determine the absorption lines in the rotational spectrum of molecules.
- Verification of the law of the Radioactive decay and determine the mean life time of a Radioactive Source, Study the absorption of the electrons from Beta decay. Study of the electron spectrum in Radioactive Beta decays of nuclei.
- Plan and Execute 2-3 group projects in the field of Atomic, Molecular and Nuclear Physics in collaboration with other institutions, if, possible where advanced facilities are available.

**(ii) Broad contents of the course:**

- Failure of classical physics and need for quantum physics.
- Various experiments establishing quantum physics and their interpretation.
- Wave-particle duality, uncertainty relation and their implications.
- Schrodinger equation and its simple applications in one dimensional potential problems of bound states and scattering.
- Elementary introduction of Nuclear Physics with emphasis on
  - (i) Nuclear Structure
  - (ii) Nuclear Forces
  - (iii) Nuclear Decays
  - (iv) Fission and Fusion

**(iii) Skills to be learned**

- Comprehend the failure of classical physics and need for quantum physics.
- Grasp the basic foundation of various experiments establishing the quantum physics by doing the experiments in laboratory and interpreting them.
- Formulate the basic theoretical problems in one, two and three dimensional physics and solve them.
- Learning to apply the basic skills developed in quantum physics to various problems in

- (i) Nuclear Physics
- (ii) Atomic Physics