

PHYSICS

Subject Code – 042

Class XI-XII (2026-27)

Senior Secondary stage of school education is a stage of transition from general education to discipline-based focus on curriculum. The present updated syllabus keeps in view the rigor and depth of disciplinary approach as well as the comprehension level of learners. Due care has also been taken that the syllabus is comparable to the international standards. Salient features of the syllabus include:

- • Emphasis on basic conceptual understanding of the content.
- • Emphasis on use of SI units, symbols, nomenclature of physical quantities and formulations as per international standards.
- • Providing logical sequencing of units of the subject matter and proper placement of concepts with their linkage for better learning.
- • Reducing the curriculum load by eliminating overlapping of concepts/content within the discipline and other disciplines.
- Promotion of process-skills, problem-solving abilities and applications of Physics concepts.

Besides, the syllabus also attempts to

- Strengthen the concepts developed at the secondary stage to provide firm foundation for further learning in the subject.
- Expose the learners to different processes used in Physics-related industrial and technological applications.
- Develop process-skills and experimental, observational, manipulative, decision making and investigatory skills in the learners.
- Promote problem solving abilities and creative thinking in learners.
- Develop conceptual competence in the learners and make them realize and appreciate the interface of Physics with other disciplines.

PHYSICS (Code No. 042)
COURSE STRUCTURE
Class XI - 2026-27 (Theory)

Time: 3 hrs.

Max Marks: 70

UNIT	CHAPTERS	MARKS
Unit-I	Physical World and Measurement	
	Chapter-1: Units and Measurements	
Unit-II	Kinematics	23
	Chapter-2: Motion in a Straight Line	
	Chapter-3: Motion in a Plane	
Unit-III	Laws of Motion	
	Chapter-4: Laws of Motion	
Unit-IV	Work, Energy and Power	
	Chapter-5: Work, Energy and Power	
Unit-V	Motion of System of Particles and Rigid Body	17
	Chapter-6: System of Particles and Rotational Motion	
Unit-VI	Gravitation	
	Chapter-7: Gravitation	
Unit-VII	Properties of Bulk Matter	
	Chapter-8: Mechanical Properties of Solids	
	Chapter-9: Mechanical Properties of Fluids	
	Chapter-10: Thermal Properties of Matter	
Unit-VIII	Thermodynamics	20
	Chapter-11: Thermodynamics	
Unit-IX	Behaviour of Perfect Gases and Kinetic Theory of Gases	
	Chapter-12: Kinetic Theory	
Unit-X	Oscillations and Waves	10
	Chapter-13: Oscillations	
	Chapter-14: Waves	
Total		70

Unit I: Physical World and Measurements

Chapter–1: Units and Measurements

Need for measurement: Units of measurement; systems of units; SI units, fundamental and derived units. significant figures, Determining the uncertainty in result. Dimensions of physical quantities, dimensional analysis and its applications.

Unit II: Kinematics

Chapter–2: Motion in a Straight Line

Frame of reference, Motion in a straight line, Elementary concepts of differentiation and integration for describing motion, uniform and non- uniform motion, average speed and average velocity and instantaneous velocity, uniformly accelerated motion, velocity - time and position-time graphs. Relations for uniformly accelerated motion (graphical and calculus treatment).

Chapter–3: Motion in a Plane

Scalar and vector quantities; position and displacement vectors, general vectors and their notations; equality of vectors, multiplication of vectors by a real number; addition and subtraction of vectors, Unit vector; resolution of a vector in a plane, rectangular components, Scalar and Vector product of vectors.

Motion in a plane, cases of uniform velocity and uniform acceleration- projectile motion, uniform circular motion.

Unit III: Laws of Motion

Chapter–4: Laws of Motion

Intuitive concept of force, Inertia, Newton's first law of motion; momentum and Newton's second law of motion; impulse; Newton's third law of motion.

Law of conservation of linear momentum and its applications.

Equilibrium of concurrent forces, Static and kinetic friction, laws of friction, rolling friction, lubrication.

Dynamics of uniform circular motion: Centripetal force, examples of circular motion (vehicle on a level circular road, vehicle on a banked road).

Unit IV: Work, Energy and Power

Chapter– 5: Work, Energy and Power

Work done by a constant force and a variable force; kinetic energy, work- energy theorem, power.

Notion of potential energy, potential energy of a spring, conservative forces: non-conservative forces, motion in a vertical circle; elastic and inelastic collisions in one and two dimensions.

Unit V: Motion of System of Particles and Rigid Body

Chapter–6: System of Particles and Rotational Motion

Centre of mass of a two-particle system, momentum conservation and Centre of mass motion.

Centre of mass of a rigid body; centre of mass of a uniform rod. Moment of a force, torque, angular momentum, law of conservation of angular momentum and its applications.

Equilibrium of rigid bodies, rigid body rotation and equations of rotational motion, comparison of linear and rotational motions.

Moment of inertia, radius of gyration, values of moments of inertia for simple geometrical objects (no derivation).

Unit VI: Gravitation

Chapter – 7: Gravitation

Kepler's laws of planetary motion, universal law of gravitation. Acceleration due to gravity and its variation with altitude and depth.

Gravitational potential energy and gravitational potential, escape speed, orbital velocity of a satellite, energy of an orbiting satellite.

Unit VII: Properties of Bulk Matter

Chapter–8: Mechanical Properties of Solids

Elasticity, Stress-strain relationship, Hooke's law, Young's modulus, bulk modulus, shear modulus of rigidity (qualitative idea only), Poisson's ratio; elastic energy. Application of elastic behavior of materials (qualitative idea only).

Chapter–9: Mechanical Properties of Fluids

Pressure due to a fluid column; Pascal's law and its applications (hydraulic lift and hydraulic brakes), effect of gravity on fluid pressure.

Viscosity, Stokes' law, terminal velocity, streamline and turbulent flow, critical velocity, Bernoulli's theorem and its simple applications (Torricelli's law and Dynamic lift).

Surface energy and surface tension, angle of contact, excess of pressure across a curved surface, application of surface tension ideas to drops, bubbles and capillary rise.

Chapter–10: Thermal Properties of Matter

Heat, temperature, thermal expansion; thermal expansion of solids, liquids and gases, anomalous expansion of water; specific heat capacity; C_p , C_v - calorimetry; change of state - latent heat capacity.

Heat transfer-conduction, convection and radiation, thermal conductivity, qualitative ideas of Blackbody radiation, Wein's displacement Law, Stefan's law.

Unit VIII: Thermodynamics

Chapter–11: Thermodynamics

Thermal equilibrium and definition of temperature, zeroth law of thermodynamics, heat, work and internal energy. First law of thermodynamics, Second law of thermodynamics: Thermodynamic state variable and equation of state. Change of condition of gaseous state - isothermal, adiabatic, reversible, irreversible, and cyclic processes.

Unit IX: Behavior of Perfect Gases and Kinetic Theory of Gases

Chapter–12: Kinetic Theory

Equation of state of a perfect gas, work done in compressing a gas.

Kinetic theory of gases - assumptions, concept of pressure. Kinetic interpretation of temperature; rms speed of gas molecules; degrees of freedom, law of equi-partition of energy (statement only) and application to specific heat capacities of gases; concept of mean free path, Avogadro's number.

Unit X: Oscillations and Waves

Chapter–13: Oscillations

Periodic motion - time period, frequency, displacement as a function of time, periodic functions and their applications.

Simple harmonic motion (S.H.M), uniform circular motion and its equations of motion; phase; oscillations of a loaded spring- restoring force and force constant; energy in S.H.M.

Kinetic and potential energies; simple pendulum derivation of expression for its time period.

Chapter–14: Waves

Wave motion: Transverse and longitudinal waves, speed of travelling wave, displacement relation for a progressive wave, principle of superposition of waves, reflection of waves, standing waves in strings and organ pipes, fundamental mode and harmonics, Beats.

PRACTICALS

The record, to be submitted by the students, at the time of their annual examination, has to include:

- Record of at least 8 Experiments [with 4 from each section], to be performed by the students.
- Record of at least 6 Activities [with 3 each from section A and section B], to be performed by the students.
- Report of the project carried out by the students.

EVALUATION SCHEME

Time 3 hours

Max. Marks: 30

Topic	Marks
Two experiments one from each section	7+7
Practical record (experiment and activities)	5
One activity from any section	3
Investigatory Project	3
Viva on experiments, activities and project	5
Total	30

SECTION-A

Experiments

1. To measure diameter of a small spherical/cylindrical body and to measure internal diameter and depth of a given beaker/calorimeter using Vernier Callipers and hence find its volume.
2. To measure diameter of a given wire and thickness of a given sheet using screw gauge.
3. To determine volume of an irregular lamina using screw gauge.
4. To determine radius of curvature of a given spherical surface by a spherometer.
5. To determine the mass of two different objects using a beam balance.
6. To find the weight of a given body using parallelogram law of vectors.

7. Using a simple pendulum, plot its graph and use it to find the effective length of second's pendulum.
8. To study variation of time period of a simple pendulum of a given length by taking bobs of same size but different masses and interpret the result.
9. To study the relationship between force of limiting friction and normal reaction and to find the co-efficient of friction between a block and a horizontal surface.
10. To find the downward force, along an inclined plane, acting on a roller due to gravitational pull of the earth and study its relationship with the angle of inclination θ by plotting graph between force and $\text{Sin}\theta$.

Activities

1. To make a paper scale of given least count, e.g., 0.2cm, 0.5 cm.
2. To determine mass of a given body using a metre scale by principle of moments.
3. To plot a graph for a given set of data, with proper choice of scales and error bars.
4. To measure the force of limiting friction for rolling of a roller on a horizontal plane.
5. To study the variation in range of a projectile with angle of projection.
6. To study the conservation of energy of a ball rolling down on an inclined plane (using a double inclined plane).
7. To study dissipation of energy of a simple pendulum by plotting a graph between square of amplitude and time.

SECTION-B

Experiments

1. To determine Young's modulus of elasticity of the material of a given wire.
2. To find the force constant of a helical spring by plotting a graph between load and extension.
3. To study the variation in volume with pressure for a sample of air at constant temperature by plotting graphs between P and V , and between P and $1/V$.
4. To determine the surface tension of water by capillary rise method.
5. To determine the coefficient of viscosity of a given viscous liquid by measuring terminal velocity of a given spherical body.
6. To study the relationship between the temperature of a hot body and time by plotting a cooling curve.
7. To determine specific heat capacity of a given solid by method of mixtures.
8. To study the relation between frequency and length of a given wire under constant tension using sonometer.
9. To study the relation between the length of a given wire and tension for constant frequency using sonometer.
10. To find the speed of sound in air at room temperature using a resonance tube by two resonance positions.

Activities

1. To observe change of state and plot a cooling curve for molten wax.
2. To observe and explain the effect of heating on a bi-metallic strip.
3. To note the change in level of liquid in a container on heating and interpret the observations.
4. To study the effect of detergent on surface tension of water by observing capillary rise.
5. To study the factors affecting the rate of loss of heat of a liquid.
6. To study the effect of load on depression of a suitably clamped metre scale loaded at (i) its end (ii) in the middle.
7. To observe the decrease in pressure with increase in velocity of a fluid.

Practical Examination for Visually Impaired

Students Class XI

Note: Same Evaluation scheme and general guidelines for visually impaired students as given for Class XII may be followed.

A. Items for Identification/Familiarity of the apparatus for assessment in practical's (All experiments)

Spherical ball, Cylindrical objects, vernier calipers, beaker, calorimeter, Screw gauge, wire, Beam balance, spring balance, weight box, gram and milligram weights, forceps, Parallelogram law of vectors apparatus, pulleys and pans used in the same 'weights' used, Bob and string used in a simple pendulum, meter scale, split cork, suspension arrangement, stop clock/stop watch, Helical spring, suspension arrangement used, weights, arrangement used for measuring extension, Sonometer, Wedges, pan and pulley used in it, 'weights' Tuning Fork, Meter scale, Beam balance, Weight box, gram and milligram weights, forceps, Resonance Tube, Tuning Fork, Meter scale, Flask/Beaker used for adding water.

B. List of Practicals

1. To measure diameter of a small spherical/cylindrical body using vernier calipers.
2. To measure the internal diameter and depth of a given beaker/calorimeter using vernier calipers and hence find its volume.
3. To measure diameter of given wire using screw gauge.
4. To measure thickness of a given sheet using screw gauge.
5. To determine the mass of a given object using a beam balance.
6. To find the weight of given body using the parallelogram law of vectors.
7. Using a simple pendulum plot L-T and graphs. Hence find the effective length of second's pendulum using appropriate length values.
8. To find the force constant of given helical spring by plotting a graph between load and extension.
9. (i) To study the relation between frequency and length of a given wire under constant tension using a sonometer.
(ii) To study the relation between the length of a given wire and tension, for constant frequency, using a sonometer.
10. To find the speed of sound in air, at room temperature, using a resonance tube, by observing the two resonance positions.

Note: The above practicals may be carried out in an experiential manner rather than recording observations.

Prescribed Books:

1. Physics Part-I, Textbook for Class XI, Published by NCERT
2. Physics Part-II, Textbook for Class XI, Published by NCERT
3. Laboratory Manual of Physics, Class XI Published by NCERT
4. The list of other related books and manuals brought out by NCERT (consider multimedia also).

Note:

The content indicated in NCERT textbooks as excluded for the year 2026-27 is not to be tested by schools.