

Physics

Bachelor of Science

What is Physics?

Physicists explore the nature of physical reality at its most fundamental level, from the icy depths of the South Pole to dark matter weaving the fabric of the universe. Physicists ask the fundamental questions - How did the universe begin and how was it made? What is the universe made of? They explore the properties and laws that govern space, time, energy, and matter.

What does a physicist do?

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Duties a physicist might undertake include:

- Planning and conducting scientific experiments to test theories and discover properties of matter and energy
- Developing scientific theories and models that attempt to explain the properties of the natural world, such as the force of gravity or the creation of sub-atomic particles
- Writing scientific papers
- Presenting research findings
- Writing proposals for research funding
- Doing complex math to analyze data
- Designing scientific equipment
- Developing computer software to analyze and model data

Average starting salary for a 2018-2019 South Dakota Mines physics graduate was \$117,000 (based on less than five offers).

Careers

South Dakota Mines physics graduates can work in a wide range of career fields, including:

- Research
- Industrial development
- Environmental science
- Astrophysics
- Nuclear technology
- Medicine
- Transportation
- Music, television and gaming
- Law and finance

For more information: <https://www.sdsmt.edu/Academics/Degrees/Physics/>

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