

**COMMON POOL OF GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE) COURSES**  
Offered by Department of Physics  
*Category-IV*

**COMMON POOL OF GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE) COURSES**

**Note: Examination scheme and modes shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.**

**GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE – 1): MECHANICS**

**Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course**

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course	Department offering the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice			
Mechanics GE 1	4	3	0	1	Class XII pass	NIL	Physics and Astrophysics

**Learning Objectives**

This course reviews the concepts of mechanics learnt at school in a more advanced perspective and goes on to build new concepts. It begins with dynamics of a system of particles and ends with the special theory of relativity. Students will appreciate the concept of rotational motion, gravitation and oscillations. The students will be able to apply the concepts learnt to several real world problems. A brief recapitulation of vector algebra and differential equations is also done to familiarize students with basic mathematical concepts which are necessary for a course on mechanics.

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to understand the following concepts.

- Laws of motion and their application to various dynamical situations. And their applications to conservation of momentum, angular momentum and energy.
- Motion of a simple and compound pendulum
- Application of Kepler's laws to describe the motion of satellites in circular orbit.
- The concept of geosynchronous orbits
- Concept of stress and strain and relation between elastic constants
- Postulates of Special Theory of Relativity, Lorentz transformation, relativistic effects on the mass and energy of a moving body.

In the laboratory course, after acquiring knowledge of how to handle measuring

instruments (like vernier calliper, screw gauge and travelling microscope) student shall embark on verifying various principles and associated measurable quantities.

## **SYLLABUS OF GE – 1**

### **THEORY COMPONENT**

#### **Unit 1: Recapitulation of Vectors and Ordinary Differential Equation (8 Hours)**

Vector algebra, scalar and vector product, gradient of a scalar field, divergence and curl of vectors field

Ordinary Differential Equations: First order homogeneous differential equations, second order homogeneous differential equation with constant coefficients

#### **Unit 2: Fundamentals of Dynamics (10 Hours)**

Review of Newton's laws of motion, dynamics of a system of particles, centre of mass, determination of centre of mass for discrete and continuous systems having spherical symmetry, Conservation of momentum and energy, Conservative and non-Conservative forces, work – energy theorem for conservative forces, force as a gradient of potential energy.

#### **Unit 3: Rotational Dynamics and Oscillatory Motion (14 Hours)**

Angular velocity, angular momentum, torque, conservation of angular momentum, Moment of inertia, Theorem of parallel and perpendicular axes, Calculation of moment of inertia of discrete and continuous objects (1-D and 2-D).

Idea of simple harmonic motion, Differential equation of simple harmonic motion and its solution, Motion of a simple pendulum and compound pendulum

#### **Unit 4: Gravitation (5 Hours)**

Newton's Law of Gravitation, Motion of a particle in a central force field, Kepler's Laws (statements only), Satellite in circular orbit and applications, geosynchronous orbits

#### **Unit 5: Elasticity (3 Hours)**

Concept of stress and strain, Hooke's law, elastic moduli, twisting torque on a wire, tensile strength, relation between elastic constants, Poisson's ratio, rigidity modulus

#### **Unit 6: Special Theory of Relativity (5 Hours)**

Postulates of Special Theory of Relativity, Lorentz transformation, length contraction, time dilation, relativistic transformation of velocity, relativistic variation of mass, mass-energy equivalence

## **PRACTICAL COMPONENT (30 Hours)**

The teacher is expected to give basic idea and working of various apparatus and instruments related to different experiments. Students should also be given knowledge of recording and analyzing experimental data.

Every student should perform at least 06 experiments from the following list.

- 1) Measurement of length (or diameter) using vernier calliper, screw gauge and travelling microscope.
- 2) Study the random error in observations.
- 3) Determination of height of a building using a sextant.
- 4) Study of motion of the spring and calculate (a) spring constant and, (b) acceleration due to gravity ( $g$ )
- 5) Determination of moment of inertia of a flywheel.
- 6) Determination of  $g$  and velocity for a freely falling body using digital timing technique.
- 7) Determination of modulus of rigidity of a wire using Maxwell's needle.
- 8) Determination of elastic constants of a wire by Searle's method.
- 9) Determination of value of  $g$  using bar pendulum.
- 10) Determination of value of  $g$  using Kater's pendulum.

References (for Laboratory Work):

- 1) Advanced practical physics for students, B. L. Flint and H. T. Worsnop, 1971, Asia Publishing House.
- 2) Engineering practical physics, S. Panigrahi and B. Mallick, 2015, Cengage Learning India Pvt. Ltd.
- 3) Practical physics, G. L. Squires, 2015, 4/e, Cambridge University Press.
- 4) A text book of practical physics, I. Prakash and Ramakrishna, 11/e, 2011, Kitab Mahal.
- 5) B. Sc. practical physics, Geeta Sanon, R. Chand and Co., 2016.

### **Essential readings:**

### **FOR THEORY COMPONENT**

- 1) Vector Analysis – Schaum's Outline, M.R. Spiegel, S. Lipschutz, D. Spellman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edn., 2009, McGraw- Hill Education.
- 2) An Introduction to Mechanics (2/e), Daniel Kleppner and Robert Kolenkow, 2014, Cambridge University Press.
- 3) Mechanics Berkeley Physics Course, Vol. 1, 2/e: Charles Kittel, et. al., 2017, McGraw Hill Education
- 4) Mechanics, D. S. Mathur, P. S. Hemne, 2012, S. Chand.
- 5) Fundamentals of Physics, Resnick, Halliday and Walker 10/e, 2013, Wiley.

### **Suggestive readings**

- 1) Feynman Lectures, Vol. 1, R. P. Feynman, R. B. Leighton, M. Sands, 2008, Pearson Education.
- 2) University Physics, Ronald Lane Reese, 2003, Thomson Brooks/Cole.
- 3) University Physics, H. D. Young, R. A. Freedman, 14/e, 2015, Pearson Education.
- 4) Engineering Mechanics, Basudeb Bhattacharya, 2/e, 2015, Oxford University Press
- 5) Physics for Scientists and Engineers, Randall D Knight, 3/e, 2016, Pearson Education.

## GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE - 2): MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS

### Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Mathematical Physics GE – 2	4	3	1	0	Class XII pass	NIL

### Learning Objectives

The emphasis of course is to equip students with the mathematical tools required in solving problem of interest to physicists. The course will expose students to fundamental computational physics skills and hence enable them to solve a wide range of physics problems.

### Learning Outcomes

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

- Understand functions of several variables.
- Represent a periodic function by a sum of harmonics using Fourier series and their applications in physical problems such as vibrating strings etc.
- Obtain power series solution of differential equation of second order with variable coefficient using Frobenius method.
- Understand properties and applications of special functions like Legendre polynomials, Bessel functions and their differential equations and apply these to various physical problems such as in quantum mechanics.
- Learn about gamma and beta functions and their applications.
- Solve linear partial differential equations of second order with separation of variable method.
- Understand the basic concepts of complex analysis and integration.
- During the tutorial classes, students' skill will be developed to solve more problems related to the concerned topics.

### SYLLABUS OF GE – 2

#### THEORY COMPONENT

Unit 1:

**(6 Hours)**

**Fourier series:** Periodic functions. Orthogonality of sine and cosine functions, Convergence of Fourier series and Dirichlet Conditions (Statement only). Expansion of periodic functions in a series of sine and cosine functions and determination of Fourier coefficients. Even and odd functions and their Fourier expansions (Fourier Cosine Series and Fourier Sine Series).

**Unit 2: (10 Hours)**

**Frobenius Method and Special Functions:** Singular Points of Second Order Linear Differential Equations and their importance. Frobenius method and its applications to differential equations. Legendre and Bessel Differential Equations.

**Unit 3: (14 Hours)**

**Some Special Integrals:** Beta and Gamma Functions and Relation between them. Expression of integrals in terms of Gamma Functions.

**Partial Differential Equations:** Multivariable functions, Partial derivatives, Functions Solutions to partial differential equations, using separation of variables: Laplace's Equation in problems of rectangular geometry, Solution of 1D wave equation.

**Unit 4: (15 Hours)**

**Complex Analysis:** Functions of complex variable, limit, continuity, Analytic function, Cauchy-Riemann equations, singular points, Cauchy Goursat Theorem, Cauchy's Integral Formula, Residues, Cauchy's Residue Theorem.

**Essential readings:**

- 1) Advanced Engineering Mathematics, Erwin Kreyszig, 2008, Wiley India.
- 2) Complex Variables and Applications, J. W. Brown and R. V. Churchill, 7th Ed. 2003, Tata McGraw-Hill
- 3) Advanced Mathematics for Engineers and Scientists: Schaum Outline Series, M. R Spiegel, 2009, McGraw Hill Education.
- 4) Applied Mathematics for Engineers and Physicists, L.A. Pipes and L.R. Harvill, 2014, Dover Publications.
- 5) Mathematical Methods for Physics and Engineers, K.F Riley, M.P. Hobson and S. J. Bence, 3rd Ed., 2006, Cambridge University Press.

**Suggestive readings**

- 1) Mathematical Physics, A. K. Ghatak, I. C. Goyal and S. J. Chua, 2017, Laxmi Publications Private Limited.
- 2) Advanced Engineering Mathematics, D. G. Zill and W. S. Wright, 5 Ed., 2012, Jones and Bartlett Learning.
- 3) An introduction to ordinary differential equations, E. A. Coddington, 2009, PHI Learning.
- 4) Differential Equations, George F. Simmons, 2007, McGraw Hill.
- 5) Mathematical methods for Scientists and Engineers, D. A. Mc Quarrie, 2003, Viva Books

## GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE – 3): WAVES AND OPTICS

### Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
<b>Waves and Optics</b> <b>GE 3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Class XII pass</b>	<b>NIL</b>

#### Learning Objectives

This coursework reviews the concept of waves and optics learnt at school level from a more advanced perspective and builds new concepts. This course is divided into two main parts. The first part deals with vibrations and waves. The second part pertains to optics and provides the details of interference, diffraction and polarization.

#### Learning Outcomes

After the completion of this course, the students will have learnt the following.

- Simple harmonic motion, superposition principle and its application to find the resultant of superposition of harmonic oscillations.
- Concepts of vibrations in strings.
- Interference as superposition of waves from coherent sources.
- Basic concepts of Diffraction: Fraunhofer and Fresnel Diffraction.
- Elementary concepts of the polarization of light.

### SYLLABUS OF GE – 3

#### THEORY COMPONENT

##### Unit 1: (10 Hours)

**Superposition of Harmonic Oscillations:** Simple harmonic motion (SHM). Linearity and Superposition Principle. Superposition of two collinear harmonic oscillations having (1) equal frequencies and (2) different frequencies (Beats). Superposition of two perpendicular harmonic oscillations: Graphical and Analytical Methods. Lissajous Figures (1:1 and 1:2) and their uses.

##### Unit 2: ( 5 Hours)

**Waves Motion:** Types of waves: Longitudinal and Transverse (General idea). Travelling waves in a string, wave equation. Energy density. Standing waves in a string - modes of vibration. Phase velocity.

**Unit 3: (12 Hours)**

**Interference of Light:** Electromagnetic nature of light. Definition and properties of wave front. Huygens Principle. Interference: Division of amplitude and division of wave front. Young's Double Slit experiment. Fresnel's Biprism. Phase change on reflection: Stoke's treatment. Interference in Thin Films: parallel and wedge-shaped films. Newton's Rings: measurement of wavelength and refractive index.

**Unit 4: (12 Hours)**

**Diffraction:** Fraunhofer diffraction - Single slit, Double slit and Diffraction grating. Fresnel Diffraction - Half-period zones, Zone plate, Fresnel Diffraction pattern of a straight edge using half-period zone analysis.

**Unit 5: (6 Hours)**

**Polarization:** Transverse nature of light waves. Plane polarized light. Production and detection of linearly polarized light. Malus's Law. Idea of circular and elliptical polarization.

**PRACTICAL COMPONENT (30 Hours)**

Every student must perform at least 05 experiments out of the list following experiments.

- 1) To determine the frequency of an electrically maintained tuning fork by Melde's experiment and to verify  $\lambda^2 - T$  Law.
- 2) To study Lissajous Figures.
- 3) Familiarization with Schuster's focusing and determination of the angle of prism.
- 4) To determine the refractive index of the material of a prism using sodium light.
- 5) To determine the dispersive power of a prism using mercury light.
- 6) To determine wavelength of sodium light using Newton's rings.
- 7) To determine wavelength of sodium light using a plane diffraction grating.
- 8) To verify Malus's Law.
- 9) To determine the wavelength of Laser light using single slit diffraction. (Due care should be taken not to see Laser light source directly as it may cause injury to eyes.)

References (for Laboratory Work):

- 1) Advanced Practical Physics for students, B. L. Flint and H. T. Worsnop, Asia Publishing House
- 2) A Text Book of Practical Physics, Indu Prakash and Ramakrishna, Kitab Mahal
- 3) An advanced course in practical physics, D. Chattopadhyay and P. C. Rakshit, New Central Book Agency

**Essential readings:**

**FOR THEORY COMPONENT**

- 1) The Physics of Waves and Oscillations: N K Bajaj, Tata Mcgraw Hill
- 2) Optics: Ajoy Ghatak, Seventh edition, Mcgraw Hill
- 3) Principle of Optics: B. K. Mathur and T. P. Pandya, Gopal Printing Press
- 4) Optics: Brij Lal and N. Subramanyam, S. Chand
- 5) The Fundamentals of Optics: A. Kumar, H. R. Gulati and D. R. Khanna, R. Chand

**Suggestive readings:**

- 1) Vibrations and Waves: A. P. French, CRC
- 2) The physics of Vibrations and Waves: H. J. Pain, Wiley
- 3) Fundamentals of Optics: Jenkins and White, McGraw Hill
- 4) Optics: E. Hecht and A R. Ganesan, Pearson, India
- 5) Introduction to Optics: F. Pedrotti, L. M. Pedrotti and L. S. Pedrotti, Pearson, India

**GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE - 6): INTRODUCTORY ASTRONOMY****Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course**

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
<b>Introductory Astronomy GE 6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Class XII pass</b>	<b>NIL</b>

**Learning Objectives**

This course is meant to introduce undergraduate students to the wonders of the Universe. Students will understand how astronomers over millennia have come to understand mysteries of the universe using laws of geometry and physics, and more recently chemistry and biology. They will be introduced to the Indian contribution to astronomy starting from ancient times up to the modern era. They will learn about diverse set of astronomical phenomenon, from the daily and yearly motion of stars and planets in the night sky which they can observe themselves, to the expansion of the universe deduced from the latest observations and cosmological models. Students will also be introduced to internet astronomy and the citizen science research platform in astronomy. The course presupposes school level understanding of mathematics and physics.

**Learning Outcomes**

- After completing this course, student will gain an understanding of,
- Different types of telescopes, diurnal and yearly motion of astronomical objects, astronomical coordinate systems and their transformations
- Brightness scale for stars, types of stars, their structure and evolution on HR diagram
- Components of solar system and its evolution
- Current research in detection of exoplanets
- Basic structure of different galaxies and rotation of the Milky Way galaxy
- Distribution of chemical compounds in the interstellar medium and astrophysical conditions necessary for the emergence and existence of life
- Internet based astronomy and the collaborative citizen astronomy projects

- India's contribution to astronomy, both in ancient times and in modern era.

## SYLLABUS OF GE – 6

### Unit 1: (8 Hours)

**Introduction to Astronomy and Astronomical Scales:** History of astronomy, wonders of the Universe, overview of the night sky, diurnal and yearly motions of the Sun, size, mass, density and temperature of astronomical objects, basic concepts of positional astronomy: Celestial sphere, Astronomical coordinate systems, Horizon system and Equatorial system

### Unit 2: (6 Hours)

**Basic Parameters of Stars:** Stellar energy sources, determination of distance by parallax method, aberration, proper motion, brightness, radiant flux and luminosity, apparent and absolute magnitude scales, distance modulus, determination of stellar temperature and radius, basic results of Saha ionization formula and its applications for stellar astrophysics, stellar spectra, dependence of spectral types on temperature, luminosity classification, stellar evolutionary track on Hertzsprung-Russell diagram

### Unit 3: (8 Hours)

**Astronomical Instruments:** Observing through the atmosphere (Scintillation, Seeing, Atmospheric Windows and Extinction). Basic Optical Definitions for Telescopes: Magnification, Light Gathering Power, Limiting magnitude, Resolving Power, Diffraction Limit. Optical telescopes, radio telescopes, Hubble space telescope, James Web space telescope, Fermi Gamma ray space telescope.

**Astronomy in the Internet Age:** Overview of Aladin Sky Atlas, Astrometrica, Sloan Digital Sky Survey, Stellarium, virtual telescope

**Citizen Science Initiatives:** Galaxy Zoo, SETI@Home, RAD@Home India

### Unit 4: (8 Hours)

**Sun and the solar system:** Solar parameters, Sun's internal structure, solar photosphere, solar atmosphere, chromosphere, corona, solar activity, origin of the solar system, the nebular model, tidal forces and planetary rings

**Exoplanets:** Detection methods and characterization

### Unit 5: (12 Hours)

**Physics of Galaxies:** Basic structure and properties of different types of Galaxies, Nature of rotation of the Milky Way (Differential rotation of the Galaxy), Idea of dark matter

**Cosmology and Astrobiology:** Standard Candles (Cepheids and SNe Type Ia), Cosmic distance ladder, Olber's paradox, Hubble's expansion, History of the Universe, Chemistry of life, Origin of life, Chances of life in the solar system

### Unit 6: (4 Hours)

**Astronomy in India:** Astronomy in ancient, medieval and early telescopic era of India, current Indian observatories (Hanle-Indian Astronomical Observatory, Devasthal Observatory, Vainu Bappu Observatory, Mount Abu Infrared Observatory, Gauribidanur Radio Observatory, Giant Metre-wave Radio Telescope, Udaipur Solar Observatory, LIGO -

India) (qualitative discussion), Indian astronomy missions (Astrosat, Aditya)

**Essential readings:**

- 1) Seven Wonders of the Cosmos, Jayant V Narlikar, Cambridge University Press
- 2) Fundamental of Astronomy, H. Karttunen et al. Springer
- 3) Modern Astrophysics, B.W. Carroll and D.A. Ostlie, Addison-Wesley Publishing Co.
- 4) Introductory Astronomy and Astrophysics, M. Zeilik and S.A. Gregory, Saunders College Publishing.
- 5) The Molecular Universe, A.G.G.M. Tielens (Sections I, II and III), Reviews of Modern Physics, Volume 85, July-September, 2013
- 6) Astronomy in India: A Historical Perspective, Thanu Padmanabhan, Springer

Useful websites for astronomy education and citizen science research platform

- 1) <https://aladin.u-strasbg.fr/>
- 2) <http://www.astrometrica.at/>
- 3) <https://www.sdss.org/>
- 4) <http://stellarium.org/>
- 5) <https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/zookeeper/galaxy-zoo/>
- 6) <https://setiathome.berkeley.edu/>
- 7) <https://www.radathomeindia.org/>

**Suggestive readings:**

- 1) Explorations: Introduction to Astronomy, Thomas Arny and Stephen Schneider, McGraw Hill
- 2) Astrophysics Stars and Galaxies K D Abhyankar, Universities Press
- 3) Textbook of Astronomy and Astrophysics with elements of cosmology, V.B. Bhatia, Narosa Publication.
- 4) Baidyanath Basu, An introduction to Astrophysics, Prentice Hall of India Private Limited.
- 5) The Physical Universe: An Introduction to Astronomy, F H Shu, University Science Books