

Engineering Physics (2025)

Course code 25PY101

Course Plan

Course Instructor:

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Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research

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Course Structure and Outline

①	Number of credits	4
②	Number of hours per week	8
③	Decomposition of hours	L(3), T(0), P(2), SL(3)
④	Number of Modules	2
⑤	Number of weeks per Module	M1 (6), M2 (9)

Module	Unit	Topic
Module 1	Unit 1	Classical Free Electron Theory
	Unit 2	Quantum Mechanics
Module 2	Unit 1	Quantum Free Electron Theory
	Unit 2	Optoelectronics
	Unit 3	Laser

Table: Course Outline.

Module 1

- Unit 1 Introduction to metals, expression for electrical conductivity
Introduction to semiconductors—intrinsic, n-type and p-type
Elec. conductivity of s.c. – intrinsic, n-type and p-type
Hall effect- applications.
- Unit 2 Introduction to Quantum Mechanics, Dual nature of radiation
de Broglie's concept of matter waves, Uncertainty principle
Schrödinger's time-independent wave equation
Particle confined in a one-dimensional infinite potential well
Quantum dots
Finite potential well- Quantum Tunneling
Scanning tunneling microscope, tunneling diode (Qualitative)
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Table: Topics of Module 1.

Course Lectures: Module 2

Module 2

- Unit 1 Quantum free electron theory, Fermi-Dirac distribution
Electronic specific heat of solids, Density of states (qualitative)
Success and Failures of quantum free electron theory of solids
E-k diagram- classification of materials based on bands in solids
Fermi level in semiconductors- intrinsic and extrinsic.
- Unit 2 p-n junction diode- forward and reverse bias conditions
Solar cell-construction, working-characteristics, applications
Direct and indirect bandgap semiconductors
LED-construction, working characteristics, applications.
Photodiode, construction, working characteristics, applications
Tunneling diode
- Unit 3 Introduction to lasers
Normal light vs. laser light – characteristics of laser light
Stimulated absorption, Spontaneous and Stimulated emission
population inversion, pumping
Optical resonator-lasing mechanism
Diode laser – construction, working and applications
Optical fibre communications

Course Self-Learning

Atleast **three hours per week** of self-learning.

Textbooks

- ① M. N. Avadhanulu, “Engineering Physics”, S. Chand publications 2010.
- ② Donald A. Neamen, “Semiconductor Physics and Devices: Basic principle”, 4th edition, McGraw-Hill, New York, 2012.

References

- ① D. Halliday, R. Resnick and J. Walker, “Fundamentals of Physics”, 6th edition, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2001.
- ② M. N. Avadhanulu, “Engineering Physics”, S. Chand publications 2010.
- ③ Charles Kittel, “Introduction to solid state physics”, 7th edition , Wiley, Delhi, 2007.
- ④ David J. Griffiths, “Introduction to Electrodynamics”, 3rd edition, Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi, 2012.
- ⑤ Ashcroft and Mermin, “Solid State Physics”, International student edition, 2008.

Course Practices – Module 1

- ① Determination of Energy Band gap of p-n junction diode.
- ② Hall effect – Determination of Hall effect.
- ③ Photoelectric effect – Determination of Planck's constant.
- ④ Seebeck effect – To study the variation of thermoemf of a copper-constantan thermocouple with temperature.
- ⑤ Tunneling effect – Demonstration of tunneling effect in tunnel diode.

Course Practices – Module 2

- 1 Study the characteristics of diode.
- 2 Determination of efficiency and Fill factor of a solar cell.
- 3 Determine the efficiency and fill factor of solar cells in Parallel and series combinations.
- 4 Study the $I - V$ characteristics of LED.
- 5 Optical fibre – Determination of Numerical aperture – Acceptance angle.
- 6 Determination of attenuation in Optical fiber.
- 7 Laser - Determination of wavelength.
- 8 Determination of the slit width from Fraunhofer diffraction pattern using LASER beam.
- 9 Demonstration of monochromatic nature of laser light comparing with ordinary light by the principle of dispersion by using Prism.

Course Outcomes

- 1 Comprehend the nature of metals and semiconductors under different conditions.
- 2 Apply the principles of quantum mechanics to unravel the latest technical developments.
- 3 Categorize the solids based on band theory.
- 4 Appraise the significance of P-N junction diodes in opto-electronic devices.

Sustainable development goals



Assessment Pattern

- **Formative Assessment (60%):** Continuous evaluation through tests, assignments, labs.
- **Summative Assessment (40%):** End-semester exam.
- Passing criteria: $\geq 35\%$ in both formative and summative.
- Relative grading system (final GPA based on distribution).
- Minimum 75% attendance required.