The Department of Physics and Geosciences offers an M.S. degree in Petrophysics, as well as graduate courses in Geology and in Physics. Graduate courses in Geology and Physics provide a strong supporting field for a major in another science, mathematics or engineering.

Master of Science in Petrophysics

Petrophysics is the study of physical and chemical properties of reservoirs (rocks and fluids). It is the first such program in North America, and addresses properties of subsurface rock formations and the fluid within those strata with particular application to the petroleum exploration and production industry. The course work including graduate research project is a multidisciplinary program with Geology, Physics, and Natural Gas Engineering courses.

Admissions Requirements

For the M.S. degree in Petrophysics, a bachelor’s degree in Geoscience, Mathematics, Physics, or Chemistry (or related areas) is required. Students not having enough background may need to take additional undergraduate courses.

Faculty

Graduate Faculty

Albataineh, Hisham Assistant Professor, Department of Physics and Geosciences; B.S., Yarmouk University (Jordan); M.S., Aligrah Muslim University (India); M.S., New Mexico State University; Ph.D., New Mexico State University.

Su, Haibin Associate Professor, Department of Physics and Geosciences; B.S., Beijing University (China); M.S., Chinese Academy of Sciences (China); Ph.D., University of Cincinnati.

Associate Member

Yelisetti, Subbarao Assistant Professor, Department of Physics and Geosciences; B.S., Acharya Nagarjuna University (India); M.S., University of Hyderabad (India); Ph.D., University of Victoria (Canada).

Emeritus

Norwine, James Professor Physics and Geosciences, Department of Physics and Geosciences; Regents Professor; B.S., Southeast Missouri State College; M.S., Southeast Missouri State College; Ph.D., Indiana State University.

Courses

Geology (GEOL)

GEOL 5305 Graduate Research Project 3 SCH (0-0-3)

GEOL 5306 Thesis 3 SCH (3)

GEOL 5310 Advanced Topics in Geology 1-3 SCH (1-3)

GEOL 5311 Geochemistry 3 SCH (2-3)

GEOL 5312 Geographic Info Systems 3 SCH (3-0)

Fee: $30.00

The use of GIS through individual class projects oriented toward their area of interest.
GEOL 5313 Advanced GIS 3 SCH (2-3)
Research applications of advanced techniques of Geographic Information Systems. Vector-and raster-based GIS modeling: terrain modeling, hydrological modeling, 3-D modeling; hands-on research topics. GIS programming for problem solving in students research applications. Prerequisite: GEOL 5312 or permission of instructor.

GEOL 5319 Geology of Ground Water 3 SCH (3-0)
Principles and practice of physical and chemical hydrogeology in uncontaminated and contaminated settings. This includes the influence of geologic conditions on groundwater quality, production, contamination and resource evaluation. Emphasis will be placed on a geology/hydrology course involving the presentation of theory, the collection of field data, the use of industry-validated computerized models for the analysis of the field data and the presentation of reports. Prerequisites: GEOL 1303/1103 and GEOL 1304/1104.

GEOL 5352 Remote Sensing 3 SCH (3-0)
Principles and practice of remote sensing involving analysis and interpretation of aerial photos and digital images. Students will demonstrate the use of remote-sensed through individual class projects oriented toward their area of interest.

Physics (PHYS)

PHYS 5382 Exploration Geophysics 3 SCH (3)
Application of classical physics to the study of the Earth and the solution of problems in Earth sciences, including gravity, magnetic, seismic, heatflow, electrical, electromagnetic, and well log methods, instruments, data acquisition, processing and interpretation. Applications to petroleum exploration. Prerequisites: GEOL 3370 or permission of the instructor.

PHYS 5385 Seismology 3 SCH (3)
Basics of seismology: wave propagation, seismic reflection and refraction. Application of physics in the seismic velocity and anisotropy structure of the Earth. Earthquake generation, post-seismic deformation and creep events, relation to faulting and plate tectonics. Prerequisites: GEOL 3370 or permission of the instructor.

PHYS 5388 Borehole Geophysics 3 SCH (3)
Basic rock properties concepts; evaluating formations from geophysical well logging. Instrumentation, the physics of logging, and well log interpretation. Rock physics tools and well logs for petroleum and geothermal exploration, as well as water prospecting. Prerequisites: GEOL 1303/1103, GEOL 3370, PHYS 2325/2125, PHYS 2326/2126.

PHYS 5390 Special Topics in Advanced Phys 3 SCH (0)
A detailed study of one or more specific sub-disciplines of physics. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Degree Requirements

Petrophysics, M.S.

The coursework for this multidisciplinary program involves courses in Physics (PHYS), Geology (GEOL), and Natural Gas Engineering (NGEN). The coursework for this program is as follows:

Required Coursework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 5382</td>
<td>Exploration Geophysics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 5385</td>
<td>Seismology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 5388</td>
<td>Borehole Geophysics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 5305</td>
<td>Graduate Research Project</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOL 5311</td>
<td>Geochemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOL 5319</td>
<td>Geology of Ground Water</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGEN 5303</td>
<td>Advncd Topics in Nat Gas Engin</td>
<td>1,3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGEN 5310</td>
<td>Petroleum Property Eval</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGEN 5312</td>
<td>Pressure Transient Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGEN 5363</td>
<td>Advanced Reservoir Engineering</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGEN 5387</td>
<td>Quantitative Well Log Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Semester Credit Hours 31-33

Degree Plans

For the M.S. in Petrophysics, both Plan I (thesis) and Plan II (non-thesis) are available.
- Plan I requires 24 credits of coursework plus completion of a research thesis (6 hours for research proposal and thesis).
- Plan II requires 36 hours of course work including completion of a short research project.