

General informations about graduate studies in Physics at UFRJ

Academic year

The academic year corresponds to two semesters of classes, with four months of teaching activities each one. The calendar is defined yearly by the University. In general the first semester runs from March to June and the second from August to November. The program is open all year for research activities.

Admission process

The admission process occurs twice a year. It comprises two different phases. Each one with its own application period:

1. Written exam;
2. Interview and analysis of school transcripts and curriculum vitae.

Registration for the written exam must be made electronically through the EUF PLATFORM, accessible at <http://sbfisica.org.br/v1/euf/>

All the documentation required for registration will be listed on this webpage.

After the disclosure of the result of the written exam, application for the second phase will be allowed only for candidates the Master's degree with a grade equal to or greater than 70% of the EUF average grade and for PhD candidates with a grade equal to or greater than 50% of the EUF 1-2021 average grade, as long as these values are not less than 2.0. If this occurs, a minimum score of 2.0 will be required. Registrations for the second phase must be made electronically through the website of the Unified Examination of Graduate Studies in Physics in Rio de Janeiro - UNIPOSRIO, at <https://uniposrio-fisica.cbpf.br/>

The registration period will be published on this same website and will begin after the disclosure of the written exam grades. All the documentation necessary for registration at this stage will be listed on the UNIPOSRIO website.

Academic and research supervision

Once a student is enrolled in the graduate program, his/her studies will be supervised by an academic advisor, a professor of the program designated at the time of enrollment. Then, within a period not exceeding 1 (one) year, the letter of acceptance of the thesis/dissertation advisor and summary of the work plan to be carried out in the area of their choice must be submitted to the graduate studies commission. The dissertation / thesis supervisor must be a member of the Program Faculty. In exceptional cases, to be approved by the Deliberative Commission, the student may be guided by a doctor professor from another institution. In such cases, the student must also have an academic advisor belonging to the faculty of the Graduate Program in Physics.

Course requirements for obtaining the master and PhD degrees

The graduate courses offered by the program, that are listed in detail in a separate file, correspond to 60 hours of teaching activities. Four hours a week for 15 weeks. The exceptions are the TEACHING PRACTICE courses that correspond to just 15 hours in a semester. Also, some

courses on advanced topics are eventually offered with a smaller workload, but not less than 15 hours. The course requirements are: 375 hours of classes for the Master and 555 for the Ph.D. For the master's degree, the 375 hours will be completed with 300 hours having to be completed with mandatory courses, optional courses and advanced topics courses. Then, 15 hour in the Teaching Practice course. The rest of the teaching activities can be taken as a supervised research work with the research advisor. For the PhD degree, the 555 hours will be completed with 360 hours having to be completed with mandatory courses, optional courses and advanced topics courses. Then, 15 hour in the Teaching Practice course. The rest of the teaching activities can be taken as a supervised research work with the research advisor. Under special conditions, for students that completed a Master degree course in another institution, part of the course requirements may be fulfilled by considering the courses completed in the previous institution.

Course grades

The final grades of the courses are determined by the professor responsible for the course based in tests, schoolwork and other activities. The possible results are: A - Excellent, B - Good, C - Regular D - Fail. It is mandatory that a student takes the same course again in the case of a grade D. Enrollment in the course will be canceled if the student obtains two concepts C or D.

Qualifying exam required for the PhD degree

In order to obtain the PhD degree the student must pass a qualifying exam composed of two parts

1) Seminar in a different research area. The student will present a seminar on a subject necessarily out of his main research area, chosen by him from three or more topics suggested by the examination committee. The selection of topics will be carried out 15 days in advance, until the end of the third semester after enrollment in the PhD course. The purpose of this exam is to evaluate the student's ability, when facing a new topic, to clearly perceive and expose the relevant points; Also, to check his general knowledge of physics. The evaluation committee is constituted of three professors. The examiners will assign a grade from 0 (zero) to 10 (ten) for the candidate's performance and an average equal to or greater than 7 (seven) will be required for approval. In case of failure, the student will be allowed to resubmit the exam, for a single time, within a period defined by the Deliberative Commission, which cannot exceed three months.

2) Oral exam about the thesis project. The student must take this exam not later than the end of the fourth semester from the date of enrollment in the Doctorate. Purpose of this exam: 1) To evaluate the student's knowledge in the research area; 2) Evaluate the feasibility of the research project. Requirements: The candidate will prepare a text briefly describing his / her thesis project, containing also the relevant bibliographic references. Evaluation committee: composed of three professors, the advisor being excluded. The presentation will take approximately thirty minutes and then student will have to answer the questions raised by the committee for approximately twenty minutes. The committee will evaluate the feasibility of the thesis project, and determine whether the candidate's knowledge in the general area of research, in which the project is inserted, is appropriate for its development. The examiners will assign a grade from 0 (zero) to 10 (ten) for the candidate's performance and an

average equal to or greater than 7 (seven) will be required for approval. In case of failure, the student will be allowed to resubmit the exam, for a single time, within a period defined by the Deliberative Commission, which cannot exceed three months.

Thesis and Dissertation

To obtain Master or PhD degrees, it is necessary to obtain the approval of a dissertation or thesis, respectively. It must be evaluated by an examining board in a public session. The composition of the examining board will be approved by the Deliberative Commission, based on a request by the advisor. The participation in the Board (Master and Doctorate) of the Advisor professor is at his/her discretion.

The examining board for the granting of the Master's degree is composed of at least three members, of which a maximum of two will belong to the Graduate Program in Physics.

The examining board for the PHD thesis is composed by at least five members, of which at least two must be external to the Graduate Program in Physics.

The oral presentation of dissertations or thesis must be made in a period between 30 (thirty) and 120 (one hundred and twenty) days after the delivery of all necessary documentation, including a copy of the thesis or dissertation in the appropriate format.

**We will be glad to provide any information you do not find in our webpage.
Just write to:**

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