



S.V. University 4-Year Honours Degree Programme
BSc (Physics) Honours Degree Syllabus (W.E.F. AY-2025-26)

**Model Syllabus for 4-Year UG Honours in B.Sc. (Physics) as Major in
consonance with Curriculum framework w.e.f. AY 2025-26**

COURSE STRUCTURE

Year	Semester	Course	Title of the Course	No. of Hrs /Week	No. of Credits
I	II	3	Waves and Optics	3	3
			Waves and Optics-Practical	2	1
		4	Heat and Thermodynamics	3	3
			Heat and Thermodynamics-Practical	2	1

SEMESTER-II

COURSE 3: WAVES AND OPTICS

Theory

Credits: 3

3 hrs/week

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

The course aims to develop a foundational understanding of oscillatory motion, wave behavior in strings and bars, and optical phenomena like interference, diffraction, and polarization. Students will learn to mathematically analyze vibrations and light behavior through theoretical and experimental approaches.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

On successful completion of this course, the students will be able to:

1. Describe the basic characteristics of waves such as frequency, wavelength, amplitude, period, and speed and utilize mathematical relationships related to wave characteristics.
2. Distinguish between Longitudinal and Transverse waves.
3. Understand the phenomenon of interference of light and its formation in Thin films and Newton's rings.
4. Distinguish between Fresnel's diffraction and Fraunhofer diffraction and observe the diffraction patterns in the case of single slit and the diffraction grating and to describe the construction and working of zone plate and make the comparison of zone plate with convex lens
5. Explain the various methods of production of plane, circularly and polarized light and their detection and the concept of optical activity.

UNIT-I: SIMPLE HARMONIC, DAMPED & FORCED OSCILLATIONS

(9 Hrs.)

Simple Harmonic Oscillator: Solution of differential equation, and physical characteristics, Principle of superposition, Combination of two mutually perpendicular SHMs (1:1 and 1:2 frequencies), Lissajous figures. Damping, Damped Harmonic Oscillator: Solution of differential equation, Energy considerations, Logarithmic decrement, relaxation time, quality factor, Forced Oscillations: Solution of differential equation.

UNIT-II VIBRATING STRINGS AND BARS

(9 Hrs.)

Transverse wave propagation along a stretched string, general solution of wave equation and its significance, modes of vibration of stretched string clamped at ends, overtones and harmonics. Energy transport and transverse impedance. Longitudinal vibrations in bars-wave equation and its general solution. Special cases (i) bar fixed at both ends (ii) bar fixed at the midpoint (iii) bar fixed at one end. Tuning fork.

UNIT-III: INTERFERENCE

(9 hrs)

Principle of superposition – coherence Conditions for interference of light. Fresnel's biprism determination of wavelength of light, change of phase on reflection, Oblique incidence of a plane wave on a thin film due to reflected light (cosine law) –colors of thin films- Interference by a film with two non-parallel reflecting surfaces (Wedge shaped film). Determination of diameter of wire, Newton's rings in reflected light. Determination of wavelength of monochromatic light using Newton's rings.

UNIT-IV: DIFFRACTION

(9 hrs.)

Introduction, distinction between Fresnel and Fraunhofer diffraction, Fraunhofer diffraction – Diffraction due to single slit, Fraunhofer diffraction pattern with N slits (diffraction grating), Resolving power of grating, Determination of wavelength of light in normal incidence using diffraction grating. Fresnel's half period zones-area of the half period zones-zone plate, Difference between interference and diffraction.

UNIT-V: POLARIZATION

(9 hrs.)

Polarized light: methods of polarization by reflection, refraction, double refraction, Brewster's law, Maule's law, Nicol prism polarizer and analyzer, Quarter wave plate, Half wave plate, optical activity - Determination of specific rotation by Laurent's half shade Polarimeter. Idea of elliptical and circular polarization

REFERENCE BOOKS:

1. BSc Physics Vol.1, Telugu Academy, Hyderabad.
2. BSc Physics Vol.2, Telugu Academy, Hyderabad
3. Fundamentals of Physics. Halliday/Resnick/Walker, Wiley India Edition 2007.
4. Waves & Oscillations. S. Badami, V. Balasubramanian and K.R. Reddy, Orient Longman.
5. College Physics-I. T. Bhimasankaram and G. Prasad. Himalaya Publishing House.
6. Optics – Ajoy Ghatak, Tata McGraw Hill
7. Fundamentals of Optics – Jenkins and White, McGraw Hill
8. Wave Optics and Vibrations – N. Subrahmanyam & Brijlal, S. Chand & Co.
9. Vibrations and Waves – H. J. Pain, Wiley

SEMESTER-II

COURSE 3: WAVES AND OPTICS

Practical

Credits: 1

2 hrs/week

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

The Course Objective for a practical course in electricity and magnetism may include to develop practical skills in handling electrical and electronic components, such as resistors, capacitors, inductors, transformers, and oscillators.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Determine fundamental mechanical quantities like acceleration due to gravity and spring constant using compound pendulum and spring-based experiments, applying principles of oscillatory motion.
2. Apply statistical methods to analyze experimental data, estimate errors, and understand the importance of precision in repeated time-period measurements using a simple pendulum.
3. Explore wave phenomena through sonometer experiments, verifying laws of vibrations in stretched strings, and understand the relationship between frequency, tension, and length.
4. Analyze interference patterns in Newton's rings and wedge method to determine lens curvature and wire thickness, demonstrating coherence and phase concepts in light.
5. Examine diffraction effects using grating and prisms to determine wavelength and dispersive power, and assess optical resolving capabilities of telescopes and gratings.
6. Investigate polarization phenomena through polarimetry and understand optical activity by determining specific rotation of optically active substances.

Minimum of 6 experiments to be conducted and recorded

1. Determination of 'g' by compound/bar pendulum
2. Simple pendulum normal distribution of errors-estimation of time period and the error of the mean by statistical analysis.
3. Solving equation of motion for DHO & FHO using MATLAB/OCTAVE/Python
4. Determination of the force constant of a spring by static and dynamic method.
5. Verification of laws of vibrations of stretched string –sonometer.
6. Determination of radius of curvature of a given convex lens-Newton's rings.
7. Resolving power of grating.
8. Study of optical rotation – polarimeter.
9. Fourier transform simulation of single slit diffraction
10. Fourier transform simulation of diffraction at circular, rectangular aperture, edge
11. Dispersive power of a prism.

12. Determination of wavelength of light using diffraction grating-normal incidence method.
13. Determination of wavelength of laser light using diffraction grating.
14. Resolving power of a telescope.
15. Refractive index of a liquid-hallow prism.
16. Determination of thickness of a thin wire by wedge method.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

UNIT-I: SIMPLE HARMONIC, DAMPED & FORCED OSCILLATIONS

Activity: Measuring the period of a simple pendulum and verifying the relationship between the period and the length of the pendulum. Students can use a stopwatch and a ruler to measure the time for a fixed number of oscillations and calculate the period.

Activity: Measuring the damping coefficient of a mass-spring system and calculating the quality factor. Students can measure the amplitude of the system as it undergoes damped oscillations and use the logarithmic decrement formula to calculate the damping coefficient.

UNIT-II VIBRATING STRINGS AND BARS

Activity: Measuring the speed of sound in a metal rod and comparing it with the theoretical value. Students can use a microphone and an oscilloscope to measure the time delay between two reflections of a sound pulse in the rod. They can then use the formula for the speed of sound in a solid to calculate the speed and compare it with the theoretical value

UNIT-III: INTERFERENCE

Ask students to measure the diameter of the central bright spot and the diameter of the n th ring for different values of n , and then calculate the wavelength of light

UNIT-IV: DIFFRACTION

Build a simple diffraction grating using a piece of cardboard and some sewing needles. Ask students to measure the distance between the needles, count the number of lines per unit length, and then calculate the grating spacing and the wavelength of light.

UNIT-V: POLARIZATION

Ask students to measure the angle of rotation of the polarized light before and after passing through the sample, and then calculate the specific rotation of the sample.

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**4- Year UG Honours, Major
Syllabus
(2025-26)
Semester-II**

Model Question Paper

Time : 3hrs

Marks:75

Part-A

Answer any Five Questions. Each Question carries 3 Marks.

5x3=15

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Answer the following questions. Each question carries 12 Marks

5x12=60

11. a) Unit-I
(Or)
b) Unit-I

12. a) Unit-II
(Or)
b) Unit-II

13. a) Unit-III
(Or)
b) Unit-III

14. a) Unit-IV
(Or)
b) Unit-IV

15. a) Unit-V
(Or)
b) Unit-V