



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Physics

Syllabus

Physical electronics

Course Code:	FYGC07
Course Title:	Physical electronics <i>Fysikalisk elektronik</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G2F)

Major Field of Study:
FYA (Physics)
TKA (Engineering Physics)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2020-03-11, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Completed courses in Mathematics, 30 ECTS Credits, and Physics and Engineering Physics, 35 ECTS Credits, plus registered on courses in Solid State Physics, Electromagnetic Field Theory, and Quantum Physics I, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

The aim of the course is that students acquire knowledge of basic semiconductor and semiconductor devices physics and be able to use relevant theoretical models for calculating properties and performance of semiconductor materials and devices. Students are also expected to become familiar with handling modern electronic instruments for data collection and characterisation of semiconductors, semiconductor devices, and circuits.

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- describe the crystal structure and electronic band structure of the most common semiconductor materials,
- give an account of the theoretical foundation of semiconductor physics and use the theory for calculating the electronic properties of semiconductor materials and charge transport,
- give an account of the physical foundation for the p-n junction, the function and transport characteristics of the p-n diode, the bipolar transistor, and the MOSFET transistor,
- describe metal-semiconductor junctions and semiconductor heterojunctions and their application in electronic components,
- give an account of semiconductor-based solar cells, their equivalent circuit, and efficiency limitations, and
- demonstrate ability to perform electronic characterisations of semiconductor components and use modern electronic measuring instruments.

Content

Theory:

- Survey of the crystal structure and electronic band structure of common semiconductors
- The properties of semiconductors: Distribution of electrons and holes, Fermi level, intrinsic and extrinsic semiconductors, doping, charge transport, conductivity, generation and recombination of electron-hole pairs
- The p-n junction, the p-n diode
- Metal-semiconductor junctions, Schottky diodes, ohmic contacts, semiconductor heterojunctions
- The bipolar transistor
- The MOSFET transistor
- Semiconductor-based solar cells: Structure, function, manufacturing, types of defects, efficiency
- The role of solar cells for sustainable development, effects on energy systems, and changes over time
- Future advanced solar cell concepts

Laboratory work

- Hall effect
- Electrical characterisation of a number of semiconductor components, for example transistors

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on mandatory laboratory tasks, lab reports, and a written exam.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to special pedagogical support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course. For students in Engineering programmes, one of the grades 5 (Pass with Distinction), 4 (Pass with Some Distinction), 3 (Pass), or U (Fail) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be

taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.