WHY ENGINEERING PHYSICS?
Engineering is about the way things work. Physics is about why things work the way they do. By combining the two, engineering physics students are able to satisfy their curiosity and ultimately gain a deeper understanding of the engineering problems they are working to solve.

WHY STUDY ENGINEERING PHYSICS AT UMAINE?
UMaine engineering physics was the first accredited engineering physics program in the world. Currently, it is one of only 20 programs in the U.S. and the only accredited one in New England. The Department of Physics and Astronomy in conjunction with the College of Engineering offers bachelor’s and master’s degrees in engineering physics. The curriculum emphasizes the science and mathematics behind engineering practices.

Faculty and staff are focused on student success. Three engineering physics professors have received UMaine awards for research and creativity in recent years, another is a winner of the international Humboldt Research Award, and the department is home to recipients of the Distinguished Maine Professor Award.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN ENGINEERING PHYSICS?
One of the hallmarks of an engineering physics degree is the level of flexibility it affords. UMaine prepares its engineering physics graduates for a diverse array of careers. You can work as an engineer, a physicist or pursue a graduate degree.

Our alumni have great success in some of the country’s elite graduate programs, but they also excel in industry. Charles Peddle ’59 was the main engineer of the microprocessor used in the Apple, Commodore, Nintendo and Atari computers. Other UMaine graduates have gone on to become the CEO of Eastman Kodak Co., work as acoustical engineers for Disney, work for the CIA, thrive in the financial sector, work in nuclear engineering at Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant, manage the power flow for northern New England, work as radiation physicists at medical centers, and become high-level executives at SanDisk and Avis.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
UMaine engineering physics students are able to take advantage of a myriad of research opportunities as undergraduates — some as early as their freshman year. Many work closely with scientists in UMaine’s Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology, which is internationally known for cutting-edge research with sensors.

CO-OPS AND INTERNSHIPS
Our students have recently had internships at an optics laboratory in France, an astronomical observatory in Chile, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California, and NASA Marshall Space Center in Alabama.

ASSOCIATED HONOR SOCIETIES AND STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
Majors are encouraged to participate in the Society of Physics Students, the Society of Women Engineers and other organizations in their chosen engineering field. In addition, majors frequently qualify for membership in the national honor societies Sigma Pi Sigma and Tau Beta Pi.

NEBHE PROGRAM
Applicants to this program who reside in New Hampshire, Vermont or Rhode Island are eligible for reduced tuition (in-state plus 50 percent) under the New England Regional Student Program, administered through the
ABOUT UMAINE
The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state’s premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 65 countries. It currently enrolls 11,286 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. The University of Maine offers doctoral degrees in 35 fields, representing the humanities, sciences, engineering and education; master’s degrees in roughly 70 disciplines; 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit umaine.edu.

explore
Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics
Minor in Engineering Leadership and Management
Master of Science in Engineering Physics
Ph.D. in Physics

HOW DO I APPLY?
Visit go.umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

“
I work in the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST) and there is a lot of intimidating equipment there, but Dr. Smith has been there to answer all my questions and assist me when needed. There are times which I feel less experienced than the graduate students I work with, but I feel lucky to begin building my skill as an undergrad, so when I go to grad school, I will be well-prepared for research.”

— Michelle Beauchemin, Engineering Physics major, Undergraduate Research Fellowship 2013

Students in UMaine’s engineering physics program have the opportunity to do real, meaningful, hands-on research alongside faculty members. In addition, students are able to gain real-world experience through a variety of co-ops and internships, both on and off campus.