

PHYSICAL ACOUSTICS GRADUATE CREDIT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Person-in-Charge	Julianna Simon
Program Code	PHACS_GCT
Campus(es)	University Park World Campus

The Graduate Program in Acoustics Physical Acoustics Certificate provides working professionals as well as resident students specific physical acoustics knowledge or an additional breadth of physical acoustics knowledge in a targeted approach that can support career goals or needs. In particular, students will take courses covering plane, spherical, and cylindrical waves, reflection, refraction, and transmission of sound, attenuation, and sound sources like the baffled piston. Additionally, students will have the opportunity for increased study in nonlinear acoustics, biomedical ultrasound, computational methods in acoustics, and underwater propagation and reflection of sound. This certificate provides flexibility for students to choose online or in-person electives that best suit their needs, beyond the required courses. Nine (9) acoustics course credit hours with a "C" or better are required.

All completed acoustics certificate courses with a "B" or better can be applied to the Acoustics M.Eng, M.S., or Ph.D. degree programs subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/gcac-309-transfer-credit/>). Certificate students who wish to have certificate courses applied towards a degree in Acoustics must apply and be admitted to that degree program. Admission to an acoustics graduate degree program is a separate step and is not guaranteed. Completion of the three certificates and the M.Eng Capstone Course, with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA could earn the M.Eng degree. Acoustics elective subjects include vibrations, fluids, signals, outdoor sound, oceans, and stress waves.

Effective Semester: Fall 2025

Expiration Semester: Spring 2030