Graduate Programs at the University of Maine
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The University of Maine is an RU/H (Carnegie classification) with approximately 9,500 FTE total students with 2,300 graduate students about equally split between full and part time. The Department has 14 faculty and approximately 40 graduate students, approximately 90% are in the PhD program. In addition we offer an MS in Physics and a Masters in Engineering Physics, our only program with a non-thesis option. We have about 70 undergraduate majors split between B.A and B.S. physics and an ABET accredited B.S. Engineering Physics degrees. We also teach a large number of non-major courses. The department is heavily involved in an interdisciplinary Masters in Science Teaching (MST) program with some students in both physics and the MST program. Physics Education Research is among the most popular grad student choice followed by bio-physics, condensed matter and astrophysics. A significant number of our students work with faculty in other departments such as computer, earth, and marine sciences.

We recently reduced the number of course credits required for the PhD from 42 to 30 with higher standards on the allowable courses. One reason for the change is to acknowledge the decrease in faculty numbers, a continuing challenge we face. We plan to make one net hire next year in a nanophysics related area to strengthen the departments role in the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST) at UMaine.