

## CERTIFICATE IN PHOTONICS & LASERS TECHNICAL SPECIALIST

### OPSC 100 MATHEMATICS FOR OPTICS AND PHOTONICS

**Contact hours:** Forty-five (45) – 3 Credit

**Prepared by:** Dr. Andrés Díaz – 2014

**Revised by:** Dr. Jonathan Friedman, Dr. Andrés Díaz  
María C. Ortiz, Dean School of Environmental Affairs - 2015

**Course Description:** In this course students will review and develop the mathematics skills required for the technical certificate in Photonics and Lasers. To help aspiring photonics technicians begin their studies with adequate math skills, this course pulls together topics in numerical representation, usage and conversion of physical units, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and phasors, applying those skills to specific, real-world optics and photonics scenarios. At the same time, students will become acquainted with the terminology used to describe electromagnetic waves, electromagnetic energy, and laser and optical fiber systems.

#### Competences / Objectives:

At the end of the course, the student will develop and apply the skills to:

1. Make simple arithmetic calculations such as those used in optics and photonics.
2. Make basic algebraic calculations and manipulations.
3. Make geometric diagrams with specific angles and measures, including scale drawings.
4. Measure angles and dimensions.
5. Make basic linear and polar plots.
6. Carry out basic trigonometric operations.
7. Calculate exponents, logarithms.
8. Calculate vector parameters using both trigonometric functions and complex numbers.

#### Course Content:

##### a. Scientific Notation

Photonics scenario involving scientific notation and numerical representation  
Basics of Scientific Notation  
Cases: numbers greater than 1; numbers less than 1; engineering notation  
Practice exercises

##### b. Unit Conversion

Photonics scenario involving unit conversion  
Basics of Units  
Practice exercises  
Introductory Algebra  
Photonics scenario involving introductory algebra  
Formulas and mathematical representation of statements



Order of operations  
Practice exercises  
Powers and Roots  
Photonics scenario involving powers and roots  
Powers: base and exponents  
Roots  
Practice exercises

c. Ratio and Proportion

Photonics scenario involving ratio and proportion  
What is ratio?  
What is percent?  
What is a proportion?  
Practice exercises

d. Exponents and Logarithms

Photonics scenario involving exponents and logarithms  
Basics of exponents and logarithms  
Common and natural logarithms  
Practice exercises

e. Graphing in Rectangular Coordinates

Photonics scenario involving graphing in rectangular coordinates  
Basics of graphing in rectangular coordinates  
Quadrants  
Reading graphs  
Drawing graphs  
Practice exercises

f. Geometry

Photonics scenario involving geometry  
Parallel and perpendicular lines  
Angles  
Triangles  
Practice exercises

g. Angle Measures in Two and Three Dimensions

Photonics scenario involving angle measures in two and three dimensions  
Radians and degrees  
Solid Geometry: solid angle, steradians, using solid angles  
Practice exercises

h. Trigonometry

Photonics scenario involving trigonometry  
Key trigonometry concepts  
Applications of trigonometry  
Practice exercises

i. Special Graphs

Photonics scenario involving special graphs  
Graphs of exponentials  
Polar coordinates: representation; conversion to/from rectangular coordinates  
Practice exercises



j. Representation of sinusoidal functions

Photonics scenario involving sinusoidal functions  
Mathematical representation of sinusoids: amplitude, time, period, angular frequency, phase angle, time shift  
Power of sinusoidal signals  
Important measurements: average value, effective value, RMS value, average power

k. Complex Numbers

Representation of complex numbers in the complex number plane  
Representation of complex numbers as phasors on a polar coordinate system  
Conversion between rectangular and polar forms  
Operations between complex numbers  
Phasors

**Grading Policy:** 30% Homework, attendance, and class & Blackboard discussion forum participation  
40% Two (2) partial exams  
30% One (1) comprehensive final exam

**Textbook:** National Center for Optics and Photonics Education OP-TEC and University of Central Florida. (2015). *Essential Mathematics for Engineering Technicians*.

**References:**

**a. Printed Resources**

Barrio Estévez, L. d. (2005). *Matemáticas*. [edition, Laura del Barrio Estévez]. Barcelona: Spes - Biblograf, 2005.

Bello, I. (2009). *Matemáticas básicas universitarias*. México: McGraw Hill, c2009.

Escudero Trujillo, R., & Rojas Alvarez, C. (2010). *Matemáticas básicas*. [electronic resource]. Bogotá: Ediciones de la U, 2010.

National Center for Optics and Photonics Education OP-TEC. (2014). *Mathematics for Photonics Education*. Waco, TX: Cord Communications.

Tussy, A. S., Gustafson, R. D., González Guzmán, A., & Ramírez Grycuk, E. (2007). *Matemáticas básicas*. México, D.F.: Cengage Learning, c2007.

**b. Audiovisual Resources**

CORD. (Producer). (2010). *Mathematics for Photonics Education: Lessons presented by John Chamberlain*, CORD. [Video file]. Retrieved from <http://optecvideo.opteccrm.org/mpt-videos/>



**Students with Special Needs (ADA):**

Students receiving Vocational Rehabilitation services, who present evidence, should communicate with his/her professor at the beginning of the semester to arrange for reasonable accommodations and the necessary assistance equipment. Any student needing any special accommodations should communicate these needs to the professor during the first week of class.

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