

**LEHMAN COLLEGE
OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. Type of Change: Change in prerequisite and maximum allowed credits

2. From:

Department(s)	Physics and Astronomy
Career	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate [] Graduate
Academic Level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular [] Compensatory [] Developmental [] Remedial
Subject Area	Physics
Course Prefix & Number	PHY 489
Course Title	Honors Course
Description	Independent study or participation in a research project under faculty direction.
Pre/ Co Requisites	PREREQ: PHY 350 and Departmental permission.
Credits	One semester, 6 or 9 hours, 2 or 3 credits (maximum 6 credits).
Hours	
Liberal Arts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes [] No
Course Attribute (e.g. Writing Intensive, WAC, etc)	
General Education Component	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> English Composition <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Flexible <input type="checkbox"/> World Cultures <input type="checkbox"/> US Experience in its Diversity <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Expression <input type="checkbox"/> Individual and Society <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific World

3. To:

Department(s)	Physics and Astronomy
Career	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate [] Graduate
Academic Level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular [] Compensatory [] Developmental [] Remedial
Subject Area	Physics
Course Prefix & Number	PHY 489
Course Title	Honors Course
Description	Independent study or participation in a research project under faculty direction.
Pre/ Co Requisites	PREREQ: Departmental permission.
Credits	One semester, 6 or 9 hours, 2 or 3 credits (maximum <u>8</u> credits).
Hours	
Liberal Arts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes [] No
Course Attribute (e.g. Writing Intensive, WAC, etc)	
General Education Component	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> English Composition <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Flexible <input type="checkbox"/> World Cultures <input type="checkbox"/> US Experience in its Diversity <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Expression <input type="checkbox"/> Individual and Society <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific World

4. Rationale (Explain how this change will impact the learning outcomes of the department and Major/Program):

PHY 489 is usually taken by physics majors in their junior and senior years who are engaged in research under faculty supervision. Most students take it for 2 credits. By increasing the total allowed credits from 6 to 8, students will be able to take the course a total of 4 times. This will enable students to start a research project in their junior year and continue working on it for two full years while receiving academic credit. This additional flexibility makes it more likely that research projects will be brought to a successful conclusion.

The prerequisites for the course have been updated to reflect the fact that, depending on the research project, PHY 350 is not really necessary to begin research.

5. **Date of departmental approval:** April 12, 2016