

# PHYSICS 105: PHYSICS AND SOCIETY

OFFERED EVERY SPRING

Physics 105, *Physics and Society*, is a general introduction to physics for students in the arts and the humanities. No previous background in physics and only a rusty recall of high-school mathematics are expected. Because enrollment is limited to less than twenty five students, the classroom atmosphere is more like a seminar than a lecture. Moreover, all assignments and tests are of essay-type.

The course is required in the Peace Studies Minor. It also counts toward the UNM Core Curriculum and the Arts and Sciences Group III requirements.

The course touches on:

- the philosophy of physics;
- the history of physics from ancient to modern times;
- the promises and limits of the methods of physics;
- the resolution of disputes in physics;
- the problems of pseudo-science and scientific fraud;
- the physics of the solar system;
- the physics of global climate;
- the physics of energy—sources, uses, and problems;
- the physics of ballet and photography;
- the physics of medical imaging;
- the physics of nuclear weapons, nuclear power, and nuclear waste.

The present instructor, Colston Chandler, UNM Professor Emeritus of Physics, has been teaching physics to students in the arts and humanities for over forty years.