Portrait of the Major
Thiel College offers a program of study in physics, physics secondary education and engineering (3-2 program). Physics is not a specialty only for “science nerds”; it prepares you for careers in many fields, including industry work, engineering, research, teaching, government, medicine and areas of law and finance.

Curriculum Highlights
Thiel is not a “one size fits all” institution. You’ll be able to personalize the timing and sequence of most upper-level physics courses. The engineering program divides your time between Thiel, where you’ll spend three years studying physics within a liberal arts curriculum, and Case Western Reserve University or the University of Pittsburgh, where you’ll study specialized engineering courses for two years.

Special Features
By studying physics at Thiel College, you’ll be able to:
• Enjoy individual attention—our small class sizes will help you really get to know your professors who care about your life and goals. Physics courses beyond the introductory level typically host two to six students.
• Work with qualified professors—all of our physics professors have doctorates, a long list of scientific publications and experience in and outside of academia.
• Get the support you need—our faculty are available to students, during and outside of scheduled office hours.
• Gain practical experience—you’ll spend much time in the labs to perfect analytical and practical skills, beginning very early in your education, typically the first semester! Internships are available, giving you the chance to see the practical side of science and engineering. You’ll be required to perform one-on-one research with a professor, sharpening your skills even more.

Career and Graduate School Outlook
Before leaving Thiel, you will produce a portfolio of work that will help you secure employment or graduate school placements after graduation. You can find Thiel graduates leading companies that make scientific instruments, performing accident investigations, teaching in colleges and universities, working as engineers at Kodak, teaching in high schools, performing research as astrophysicists and working as nuclear propulsion specialists with the U.S. Navy—just to name a few examples.

Contact Information
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75 College Ave., Greenville, PA 16125
“Thiel gave me more than just an academic education; it gave me the life skills and tools needed to succeed after graduation. I was able to work one-on-one with professors, which not only gave me a better understanding of the material, but taught me how to confidently converse with supervisors and managers in the workplace. I was encouraged to study topics outside of my major and to take leadership roles on campus. Together, these have made me a well-rounded individual, capable of working in a variety of fields. I also have found that having the opportunity to participate in so many activities while in school developed my time management skills.”

Steve Torok ’09,
North Huntingdon, Pa.
Support Analyst, EDMC
Major: Physics
Minor: Mathematics
Clubs and Activities: Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Lambda Sigma (sophomore honorary), Greenville Symphony, Thiel Concert Band, Newman Society

“Many people choose a college because they think it will prepare them for a career. Thiel College and the Physics Department not only gave me great technical knowledge that I apply in my job every day, but the liberal arts education gave me the tools to succeed at whatever I pursue in life. I was drawn to Thiel by the small student-to-faculty ratio, but the College has so much more to offer in its student life, athletics and other activities. While the whole college has great faculty, I found the physics professors to be by far the most amazing. They really go out of their way to make sure you understand the curriculum. I can confidently say without the physics faculty and information I learned at Thiel, I would not be where I am today.”

Nicholas Cox ’14,
Washington, Pa.
Major: Binary Engineering (mechanical)
Clubs and Organizations: Kappa Mu Epsilon (mathematics honorary), math tutor

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