

Fall 2021, MIT Physics

Information on new or revised subjects

Undergraduate subjects:

8.041: This newly-approved subject number was taught as a Special Subject three times, under the number 8.S04. 8.041 is a blended, digital version of 8.04, Quantum Physics I, covering all the same content, and satisfying the 8.04 departmental requirement for all majors. A student who takes 8.041 for credit can NOT also receive credit for 8.04. Aram Harrow will teach 8.041 this fall, and the current plan is for 8.041 and 8.04 to alternate (8.041 in fall; 8.04 in spring) each year, much as we now offer both 8.05 and 8.051 each year (8.05 in fall, 8.051 in spring).

8.10: This subject, being taught for the second fall by Prof. Frank Wilczek, “Exploring and Communicating Physics (and other) Frontiers,” is a two-unit subject structured around weekly lectures by Prof. Wilczek on a variety of current topics in physics. This subject is primarily intended for first-year undergraduates who are exploring their interest in Physics as a possible major, but it is open to other students.

8.13: Because there was a backlog of students needing and wanting to take 8.13 – based on choices students made last year not to enroll in the class when it was taught remotely – Junior Lab is overenrolled even before formal registration begins. Therefore, **8.13 enrollment will be restricted to 48 students**. Seniors who need to take the course this year will receive the highest priority for admission, then junior Physics majors, then other juniors, then any sophomores. Sophomore advisors are asked not to approve any registration in 8.13 for a sophomore. There be some clarity on any available spaces after Registration Day, September 7. For more information on how enrollment is being managed, check with Academic Administrator [Cathy Modica](#).

Graduate subjects:

There are no notable structural changes in any of our graduate subjects this fall, nor are there any new graduate subjects.