Calvin College Department of Physics and Astronomy
Assessment plan for Graduates

The Department of Physics and Astronomy will assess its program for all physics majors using the following specific goals (including double-majors and those with a physics emphasis within the Physics/Computer Science group major).

**Goal 1:** Our students should have an understanding of and problem-solving skills in at least one area of theoretical physics at the level taught in advanced undergraduate courses.

**Goal 2:** Our students should have skills sufficient for the preparation and delivery of effective oral presentations on scientific topics.

**Goal 3:** Our students should have experimental skills allowing use of instrumentation in the advanced undergraduate laboratories.

**Goal 4:** Our students should demonstrate data analysis skills allowing interpretation, discussion, and critical evaluation of experimental results.

**Goal 5:** Our students should have writing skills sufficient for the production of formal scientific reports.

**Goal 6:** Our students should have the computer skills necessary to solve computational problems at the level taught in advanced undergraduate courses.

**Goal 7:** Our students should be able to articulate thoughtful perspectives on issues relating scientific understanding to Christian faith.

**Goal 8:** Those students who complete proscribed programs for graduate school preparation or for secondary education should have the physics knowledge and skills to enable them to pursue the next step in that vocational path.

**Goal 9:** Our students should participate in the work, intellectual life, and social life of the department beyond their class work.

**Goal 10:** Our students should have evaluated their gifts and skills and considered a variety of vocational paths.