

Year	Event
Antiquity	Romans knew prisms disperse light
1785	Diffraction gratings by Rittenhouse
1802	Wollaston observes dark (Fraunhofer) bands in solar spectrum
1814	Fraunhofer spectroscopy
1859	Kirchoff: solar spectrum; radiation in discrete lines
1868	Anders Jonas Ångström : solar spectrum
1885	Balmer series 4 visible lines for Hydrogen $\lambda = B \left(\frac{n^2}{n^2 - 2^2} \right); B = 3.6 \times 10^{-7}$
1888	Rydberg for Hydrogen visible lines $\frac{1}{\lambda} = R_{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{n_1^2} - \frac{1}{n_2^2} \right); R_{\infty} = 1.097 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^{-1}$
1906-1914	Lyman Series: UV; $n_1=2$
1908	Paschen Series: IR; $n_1=3$
1922	Brackett Series: ; $n_1=4$
1925	Pfund Series: ; $n_1=5$
1953	Humphries: ; $n_1=6$
1896	Wien's Law
1897	JJ Thompson e/m experiment
1896	Pieter Zeeman observes splitting of spectral lines in strong magnetic fields: e ⁻ lighter than p ⁺ & light source. NP 1902
1897-1902	Thompson, Townsend, Wilson: $e = 1 \times 10^{-19}$
1900	Planck's law (Black Body Radiation)
1905	Einstein: Special relativity
1905	Einstein's Photoelectric effect
1911	Rutherford Scattering
1913 (1909)	Millikan oil drop experiment
1913	Stark (-Lo Surdo) effect: spectral lines shift and split in external E fields.
1913	Bohr's model of the atom
June 28 1914 - November 11 1918	World War I
1914	Frank-Hertz experiment
1915	Bohr interprets F-H as atomic levels
1922	Stern Gerlach experiment
1924	DeBroglie wave nature of electron
1926	Schrödinger equation
1924-1927	Copenhagen Interpretation