

ASTRONOMY MINOR

Banner Code: ASTR

Undergraduate Astronomy Advisor

Planetary Hall, Room 203
Fairfax Campus

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The minor expands upon a student's understanding of both astronomy beyond the introductory level and of fundamental principles and further develops analytical skills. The minor is an attractive option for students majoring in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM).

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Eight credits of coursework must be unique to the minor. For policies governing all minors, see AP.5.3.4 Minors.

Requirements

Minor Requirements

Total credits: 19 - 22

Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

The minor requires completion of all coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.00.

Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following sequences:		13-14

Sequence One:

PHYS 243 & PHYS 245	College Physics I (Mason Core) and College Physics II (Mason Core)	
or PHYS 160 & PHYS 260	University Physics I (Mason Core) and University Physics II (Mason Core)	

ASTR 111	Introductory Astronomy: The Solar System (Mason Core)	
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ASTR 112	Introductory Astronomy Lab: The Solar System (Mason Core)	
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ASTR 113	Introductory Astronomy: Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe (Mason Core)	
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ASTR 114	Introductory Astronomy Lab: Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe (Mason Core)	
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Sequence Two:

PHYS 160	University Physics I (Mason Core)	
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PHYS 260	University Physics II (Mason Core)	
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PHYS 262	University Physics III (Mason Core)	
or PHYS 308	Modern Physics	

ASTR 124	Introduction to Observational Astronomy	
ASTR 210	Introduction to Astrophysics	
Total Credits		13-14

Astronomy Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6-8 credits from the following:		6-8

ASTR 115	Finding New Worlds (Mason Core)	
ASTR 301	Astrobiology	
ASTR 302	Foundations of Cosmological Thought (Mason Core)	
ASTR 328	Stars	
ASTR 401	Computer Simulation in Astronomy	
ASTR 402	RS: Methods of Observational Astronomy (Mason Core)	
ASTR 403	Planetary Science	
ASTR 404	Galaxies and Cosmology	
ASTR 420	Exoplanets	
PHYS 428	Relativity	
ASTR 480	The Interstellar Medium	
Total Credits		6-8