Astronomy, Minor

LAASTMIN

Explore the latest discoveries about Earth's solar system, galaxy and universe. Join the students and faculty in astronomy who are building space-flight hardware, making astronomical observations, discovering new planets, exploring cosmology and engineering new instruments for telescopes and satellites.

Description

The astronomy minor is designed for students interested in developing a basic understanding of astronomy and astrophysics and analyzing issues through a scientific viewpoint.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus or online

Program Requirements

Minor Map (Archives)
2021 - 2022 Minor Map

The minor in astronomy consists of a minimum of 23 credit hours, of which at least 12 credit hours must be upper-division. All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" (2.00 on a 4.00 scale) or better.

Required Courses -- 6 credit hours

AST 321: Introduction to Planetary and Stellar Astrophysics (3)
AST 322: Introduction to Galactic and Extragalactic Astrophysics (3)

Physics Core -- 8 credit hours
Student must complete two semesters of physics.

**PHY 150: Physics I (SQ)** or **PHY 121: University Physics I: Mechanics (SQ)** AND **PHY 122: University Physics Laboratory I (SQ)** (4)

**PHY 151: Physics II (SQ)** or **PHY 131: University Physics II: Electricity and Magnetism (SQ)** AND **PHY 132: University Physics Laboratory II (SQ)** or **PHY 252: Physics III (SQ)** (4)

**Electives -- 9 credit hours**

Nine upper-division credit hours of electives are chosen in consultation with an academic advisor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration.

**AST OR MAT OR PHY OR SES Upper Division Elective (9)**

In order to satisfy SQ natural science general studies requirements, both a lecture and its corresponding laboratory section must be completed.

Depending on a student's undergraduate program of study, prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this minor.

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**Enrollment Requirements**

**GPA Requirement:** None

**Incompatibles Majors:** BS in earth and space exploration (astrophysics); BA in physics; BS in physics

**Other Enrollment Requirements:** None

Current ASU undergraduate students may pursue a minor and have it recognized on their ASU transcript at graduation. Students interested in pursuing a minor should consult their academic advisor to declare the minor and to ensure that an appropriate set of courses is taken. Minor requirements appear on the degree audit once the minor is added. Certain major and minor combinations may be deemed inappropriate by the college or department of either the major program or minor. Courses taken for the minor may not count toward both the major and the minor. Students should contact their academic advisor for more information.

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**Attend Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information [here](#).

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**Career Opportunities**

A minor can help students enhance the marketable skills they acquire in their major program and help them develop new skills apart from it, though most career areas do require more training than a minor alone can provide.
The astronomy minor supplements other degrees with problem-solving techniques and skills used in modern astronomy research applicable to a wide variety of engineering and science careers.

Contact Information

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