

Faculty & Scientist

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Undergraduate Students

Observing at WIYN



DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

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Bloomington

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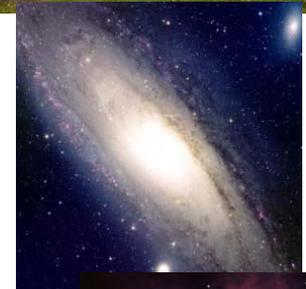
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Astronomy

Undergraduate Studies



Above is Kirkwood
Observatory located on
the Bloomington Campus



Swain Hall West

Astronomy at Indiana University

The Astronomy Department at Indiana University, Bloomington, maintains a full program of activities in research, teaching, and outreach. The department offers both an undergraduate major program leading to the B.S. degree in Astronomy & Astrophysics and a graduate program leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Astronomy or Astrophysics. Non-major students have the option to receive an Astronomy minor. In addition, the department has range of introductory astronomy courses designed for students majoring outside of the sciences.

WIYN Observatory

Indiana University is a founding member of the WIYN consortium which designed, constructed, and is now using a modern 3.5-meter telescope at Kitt Peak, about 50 miles southwest of Tucson AZ. IU has 17% of the observing time on WIYN, which we use partly by traveling to AZ and partly by remote observing from Bloomington. The WIYN Consortium also currently operates a 0.9-m telescope at Kitt Peak, to complement the science done by the 3.5-m. IU's share of the 0.9-m is 26%.

Major in Astronomy and Astrophysics

The program of study leading to the B.S. in Astronomy & Astrophysics has the following basic course requirements in Astronomy, Physics and Mathematics. For the details on distribution requirements, please consult the Bulletin, which is available from the College of Arts & Sciences or on the web at <http://www.indiana.edu/~bulletin/iub/coas/>

Astronomy & Astrophysics majors begin the sequence of Physics and Math courses during the freshman year and may begin the Astronomy course sequence during either the freshman or sophomore year.

Astronomy Courses: A221, A222 (General Astronomy I & II), A305 (Observational Techniques), and two of A451 (Stellar Astrophysics), A452 (Extragalactic Astrophysics), or A453 (Topical Astrophysics).

Physics Courses: P221, P222 (Physics I & II), P301 (Physics III), P331-P332 (Electricity and Magnetism I & III) and two of P441, P442 (Analytic Mechanics I & II) P453 or P454 (Introduction to Quantum Mechanics, Modern Physics).

Mathematics Courses: M211, M212, M311 (Calculus I, II, III), M343 (Introduction to Differential Equations I).



Minor in Astronomy and Astrophysics

A program leading to a minor in astronomy and astrophysics is provided for students who have a serious interest in the field but do not plan to major in the subject. To obtain a minor in astronomy and astrophysics, a student must take the following courses:

- ★ Two 100-level astronomy courses (not including A110)
- ★ A221
- ★ A222
- ★ One of A305, A451, A452, or A453

Altogether, these provide at least 15 credit hours. A student must take all necessary prerequisite, including some mathematics and physics classes. Substitution of other astronomy courses may be made with the permission of the department. Replacement of 100-level astronomy courses by 300- or 400-level astronomy courses is encouraged. The cumulative GPA of all courses taken for the minor must be at least 2.0.

Departmental Honors Program

The honors program is designed for superior students who plan to pursue graduate studies in astronomy and astrophysics. Students wishing to pursue the honors program should contact the undergraduate advisor in the Department of Astronomy during the second semester of their sophomore year or first semester of their junior year. To be admitted to the honors program, students must have an overall GPA of 3.3 and a GPA of 3.3 in their astronomy, mathematics, and physics courses.