

Astronomy Minor

The astronomy minor (ASTR) provides students with a foundational understanding of the physical universe, from the motions of celestial bodies to the large-scale structure and evolution of the cosmos. Through a combination of theoretical coursework, observational techniques, and data analysis, students will explore topics such as planetary systems, stars, galaxies, cosmology, and modern astrophysical techniques. A minor in astronomy will allow students to develop quantitative and qualitative skills that are broadly applicable in scientific and technical careers for a variety of academic interests and career goals, all while providing a rigorous introduction to astronomy and astrophysics.

Astronomy Minor Requirements

Courses used to fulfill the minor requirements must be taken for a letter grade of C- or better or mark of Pass (P or P*).

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
PHYS 251–253	Foundations of Physics I	12
ASTR 320	Planets and Exoplanets ¹	4
ASTR 321	Stellar Astrophysics ¹	4
ASTR 322	Galaxies and the Universe ¹	4
Elective Course		
Select one of the following:		4
PHYS/ERTH 423M	Introduction to Space Physics	
PHYS 424	Classical Optics	
PHYS 445	Computational Physics	
PHYS 483	General Relativity I	
Total Credits		28

¹ Students may apply no more than 4 total credits from ASTR 320, ASTR 321, and ASTR 322 towards the Physics major.

Additional Requirements

The 16 upper-division credits must be completed in residence at the University of Oregon. Study abroad courses are accepted.