

# ASTRONOMY MINOR

**Banner Code:** ASTR

## Undergraduate Astronomy Advisor

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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 AP5.3.4 Minors.

## Requirements

### Minor Requirements

Total credits: 18 - 21

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: |  | 12-14   |
| <b>Sequence One:</b>                   |  |         |
| 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)                      |         |
| ASTR 112                               | Introductory Astronomy Lab: The Solar System (Mason Core)                  |         |
| ASTR 113                               | Introductory Astronomy: Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe (Mason Core)     |         |
| ASTR 114                               | Introductory Astronomy Lab: Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe (Mason Core) |         |
| <b>Sequence Two:</b>                   |  |         |
| PHYS 160                               | University Physics I (Mason Core)  |         |
| PHYS 260                               | University Physics II (Mason Core)   |         |
| PHYS 262                               | University Physics III (Mason Core)  |         |
| or PHYS 308                            | Modern Physics with Applications   |         |

| Code          | Title                        | Credits |
|---------------|------------------------------|---------|
| ASTR 210      | Introduction to Astrophysics |         |
| Total Credits |                              | 12-14   |

### Astronomy Electives

| Code                                   | Title   | Credits |
|--|---|---------|
| Select 6-7 credits from the following: |   | 6-7     |
| ASTR 301                               | Astrobiology  |         |
| ASTR 302                               | Foundations of Cosmological Thought (Mason Core)    |         |
| ASTR 328                               | Stars   |         |
| ASTR 402                               | RS: Methods of Observational Astronomy (Mason Core) |         |
| ASTR 403                               | Planetary Science                                   |         |
| ASTR 404                               | Galaxies and Cosmology                              |         |
| PHYS 428                               | Relativity  |         |
| ASTR 480                               | The Interstellar Medium                             |         |
| Total Credits                          |   | 6-7     |