Astronomy, B.A.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Before the third semester begins: math through calculus I-II and physics I-II.

Before the fifth semester begins: physics III-IV and at least one more course in the major.

Before the seventh semester begins: three more courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: five more courses in the major.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Astronomy, B.A.

Course | Title | Hours
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PHYS:1702 | Physics II | 4
MATH:1860 | Calculus II | 4
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 | Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4

Hours | 15-16

Second Year

Fall

PHYS:2703 | Physics III | 4
MATH:2700 | Introduction to Linear Algebra c | 4
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion d | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5

Hours | 15-16

Spring

PHYS:2704 | Physics IV | 3 - 4
MATH:2850 | Calculus III c | 4
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues d | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5
Elective course g | 1 - 3

Hours | 14-16

Third Year

Fall

ASTR:3771 | Introduction to Astrophysics I f | 3
PHYS:3756 | Intermediate Laboratory | 3
PHYS:3811 | Electricity and Magnetism I | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5
Elective course g | 3

Hours | 13-14

Spring

ASTR:3772 | Introduction to Astrophysics II f | 3
PHYS:3710 | Intermediate Mechanics d | 3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5

Hours | 13-14

Fourth Year

Fall

PHYS:3730 | Statistical Physics | 3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives d | 3
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences d | 3
Elective course g | 3
Elective course g | 3

Hours | 15

Spring

ASTR:4850 | Astronomical Laboratory f | 3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture d | 3
Elective course g | 3
Elective course g | 3
Elective course g | 3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall)

Hours | 15

Total Hours | 118-127

Research: students are strongly encouraged to be active participants in research within the department. Students can pursue a double major in astronomy and physics and earn more than 56 s.h. from the department toward these degrees but must also complete at least 56 s.h. outside of the Department of Physics & Astronomy.

GE CLAS Core: Sustainability a

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a. Hours | 0
a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
b Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.
c While this course is not a major requirement, it is strongly recommended and a prerequisite for many physics and astronomy courses in the department.
d GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
e Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
f Typically this course is offered every other year. Check MyUI for course availability since offerings are subject to change.
g Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
h Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.