Astronomy, BS

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:1850 Calculus I, MATH:1860 Calculus II, and PHYS:1702 Physics II.

Before the fifth semester begins: all of the remaining required math courses, PHYS:2703 Physics III, PHYS:2704 Physics IV, and two other courses in the major.

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

Before the eighth semester begins: three 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, BS

Course Title Hours

Academic Career
Any Semester
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

First Year
Fall
ASTR:1771 Fundamental Astronomy I: The Solar System and Exoplanets 4

PHYS:1701 Physics I 4

MATH:1850 Calculus I b 4

RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature 3 - 4

CSI:1600 Success at Iowa 2

Spring
ASTR:1772 Fundamental Astronomy II: Evolution of Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe 4

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 4

GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion c 3

GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course e

Hours 15-16

Spring
PHYS:2704 Physics IV 3 - 4

MATH:2850 Calculus III 4

GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues c 3

GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course e

Hours 14-16

Third Year
Fall
ASTR:3771 Introduction to Astrophysics I e 3

PHYS:3756 Intermediate Laboratory 3

PHYS:3811 Electricity and Magnetism I 3

GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course d

Elective course f 1 - 3

Hours 14-17

Spring
ASTR:3772 Introduction to Astrophysics II e 3

PHYS:3710 Intermediate Mechanics 3

PHYS:3812 Electricity and Magnetism II 3

GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course d

Elective course f, g 3

Elective course f, g 3

Hours 13-14

Fourth Year
Fall
PHYS:3741 Introduction to Quantum Mechanics I 3

GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives c 3

GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences c 3

GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture c 3

Elective course f, g 3

Hours 15

Spring
ASTR:4850 Observational Techniques in Astronomy e 3

PHYS:3742 Introduction to Quantum Mechanics II 3

GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts c 3

Elective course f, g 3

Elective course f, g 3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline  
(typically in February for spring, September for fall)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>118-127</td>
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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 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.
d 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.
e Typically this course is offered every other year. Check MyUI  
for course availability since offerings are subject to change.
f 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.
g Students who plan to pursue graduate study are advised to  
go as far as they can beyond the minimum requirements.  
See General Catalog for a list of appropriate courses.
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.