ASTRONOMY MINOR

Everything around you is influenced or governed by physics — the study of matter, energy, and their interactions with one another. Physics seeks to understand the way the universe “works,” from the smallest neutrinos to the structure of the cosmos. It is the foundation of all other natural sciences, including chemistry, biology, oceanography, geography, and radiography.

The Department of Physics and Astronomy offers six B.A. and two B.S. degree tracks:

- B.A. Tracks
  - Physics
  - Astronomy
  - Computational Physics
  - Energy
  - Medical and Biological Physics
  - Quantitative Finance
- B.S. Tracks
  - Physics
  - Astrophysics

Consider a B.A. degree if you’re interested in physics but want to apply your training toward a wider variety of career paths after graduation. Students who completed this program have launched careers as lab researchers, application engineers, data scientists, and financial analysts, among other occupations. Some have also pursued an advanced degree in physics, medical physics, business, law, or computer science.

Consider a B.S. degree if you intend to pursue graduate study in physics, astronomy, or a related field, or a career practicing physics.

Requirements

In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must:

- take at least nine hours of their minor “core” requirements at UNC–Chapel Hill
- earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.000 in the minor core requirements. Some programs may require higher standards for minor or specific courses.

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/).

The minor in astronomy consists of five courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASTR 100</td>
<td>Understanding the Universe</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ASTR 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Astronomy: The Solar System</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or ASTR 102</td>
<td>Introduction to Astronomy: Stars, Galaxies &amp; Cosmology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or ASTR 103</td>
<td>Alien Life in the Universe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ASTR 100L</td>
<td>Astronomy with Skynet: Our Place in Space</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>or ASTR 111</td>
<td>Educational Research in Radio Astronomy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASTR 202</td>
<td>Introduction to Astrophysics ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See program page here (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/physics-major-ba/#opportunitiestext) for special opportunities.

Department Programs

Majors

- Physics Major, B.A. (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/physics-major-ba/)
- Physics Major, B.S. (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/physics-major-bs/)

Minors

- Astronomy Minor (p. 1)
- Physics Minor (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/physics-minor/)

Graduate Programs

- M.S. in Physics (https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/physics-astronomy/)
- Ph.D. in Physics (https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/physics-astronomy/)

Contact Information

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