New Majors in Astronomy and Astrophysics

The Department of Physics now offers majors and minors in astronomy and astrophysics as well as several concentrations in physics in order to prepare students for a broad range of careers in these fields and related disciplines.

The Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in physics, astronomy, or astrophysics provides a traditional liberal arts education with a solid set of core courses in the subject area. The Bachelor of Science degree with a major in physics, astronomy, or astrophysics provides a comprehensive curriculum that prepares students for graduate studies or careers in technology, medicine, education, law, finance, industry, and other professions. Interdisciplinary studies are encouraged, and special concentrations are available for physics majors interested in computational physics or pre-health care.

All majors and minors are strongly encouraged to attend Physics Colloquium and become involved in undergraduate research. A highly personalized education is provided by professors who are dedicated to undergraduate education with small classes and state-of-the-art laboratories.

ASTRONOMY

B.A. Degree

Requirements for a Major in Astronomy
Thirty-five semester hours including:
- PHY 1420, 1430, 2350, 2360, 2455, 3320, 3350, 3455, 4150, 4350, 4351, and 4001.

Required courses in other fields:
- Courses selected must apply to a major in these fields.
  - A. Chemistry, three semester hours.
  - B. Computer science, three semester hours.
  - C. MTH 1321, 1322, 2311, 2321, 3325, and 3326.

Additional requirements for the B.A. degree, as specified in the 2009-10 Undergraduate Catalog, pp. 64-65.

B.S. Degree

Requirements for a Major in Astronomy
Forty-three semester hours including:
- PHY 1420, 1430, 2350, 2360, 2455, 3320, 3350, 3455, 4150, 4195, 4196, 4350, 4351, and 4001.
- Six semester hours of PHY “3000” or “4000” level courses.

Required courses in other fields:
- Courses selected must apply to a major in these fields.
  - A. Chemistry, three semester hours.
  - B. Computer science, three semester hours.
  - C. MTH 1321, 1322, 2311, 2321, 3325, and 3326.
  - D. Nine semester hours from the following: biology, chemistry, computer science, geology, mathematics, or statistics.

Additional requirements for the B.S. degree, as specified in the 2009-10 Undergraduate Catalog, pp. 65-66.

Requirements for a Minor in Astronomy
Twenty-two semester hours including:
- PHY 1420, 1430, 2455, 3350, 3455.
- Three semester hours of PHY courses at the “3000” or “4000” level.

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ASTROPHYSICS

B.A. Degree

Requirements for a Major in Astrophysics
Thirty-six semester hours including:
   PHY 1420, 1430, 2350, 2360, 2455, 3320, 3330, 3350, 3372, 4350, 4351, and 4001.
Required courses in other fields:
   Courses selected must apply to a major in these fields.
   A. Chemistry, three semester hours.
   B. Computer science, three semester hours.
   C. MTH 1321, 1322, 2311, 2321, 3325, and 3326.
Additional requirements for the B.A. degree, as specified in the 2009-10 Undergraduate Catalog, pp. 64-65.

B.S. Degree

Requirements for a Major in Astrophysics
Forty-four semester hours including:
   A. PHY 1420, 1430, 2350, 2360, 2455, 3320, 3330, 3350, 3372, 3373, 4195, 4196, 4340, 4350, 4351, and 4001.
   B. Three semester hours of PHY “4000” level courses.
Required courses in other fields:
   Courses selected must apply to a major in these fields.
   A. Chemistry, three semester hours.
   B. Computer science, three semester hours.
   C. MTH 1321, 1322, 2311, 2321, 3325, and 3326.
   D. Nine semester hours from the following: biology, chemistry, computer science, geology, mathematics, or statistics.
Additional requirements for the B.S. degree, as specified in the 2009-10 Undergraduate Catalog, pp. 65-66.

Requirements for a Minor in Astrophysics
Twenty-one semester hours including:
   A. PHY 1420, 1430, 2455.
   B. Two courses from PHY 3350, 4350, 4351.
   C. Three semester hours of PHY courses at the “3000” or “4000” level.