Requirements for Astronomy B.A. Degree

This track is designed for students seeking careers in teaching, museum work, science writing, pre-med, etc. Majors in this track must develop a plan to complete course requirements with their advisor.

The requirements listed below are the Department major requirements only. In addition, to graduate you will need to satisfy the University General Education requirements and the College requirement for proficiency in a foreign language (see the College web site for how this may be satisfied).

Astronomy Courses:

ASTRON 191A: First Year Seminar (1 cr, Fall semester only)
ASTRON 228: Stars and Galaxies (3 cr, Spring semester only)
ASTRON 301: Writing in Astronomy (3 cr, satisfies Junior year writing requirement – Spring semester only)
ASTRON 335: Modern Astrophysics (4 cr, Fall semester only)
ASTRON 339: Astronomy in a Global Context (3 cr., satisfies integrative experience requirement - Spring semester only)

Three additional Astronomy courses (each at least 3 credits) and one of these three courses must be at the 300 level or higher in astronomy or closely related courses in other Departments (such as Physics or Geoscience)

Some options for 200+ and 300+ Astronomy courses:

ASTRON 220: Special Topics in Astronomy (3 cr.)
ASTRON 223: Planetary Science (3 cr.)
ASTRON 224: Stellar Astronomy (4 cr.)
ASTRON 225: Galactic and Extragalactic Astronomy (4 cr.)
ASTRON 226: Cosmology (3 cr.)
ASTRON 330: Topics in Astrophysics (3 cr.)
ASTRON 337: Techniques of Optical and Infrared Astronomy (4 cr., Fall sem.)
ASTRON 341: Advanced Techniques in Optical Astronomy (4 cr., Spring sem.)
Physics Courses:

PHYSIC 151 (with lab): General Physics I (4 cr., both semesters)

PHYSIC 152 (with lab): General Physics II (4 cr., both semesters)

PHYSIC 281: Computational Physics (3 cr, Fall semester only)

PHYSIC 284 (and lab PHYSIC 286): Modern Physics I (4 cr., Spring semester only)

PHYSIC 287 (and lab PHYSIC 289): Waves and Thermodynamics (4 cr., Fall semester only)

Math Courses:

MATH 131: Calculus I (4 cr., both semesters)

MATH 132: Calculus II (4 cr., both semesters)

MATH 233: Multivariate Calculus (3 cr., both semesters)

Suggested Course Schedule:

Freshman Year:

Fall:  ASTRON 191A,  PHYSIC 151,  MATH 131  
Spring:  PHYSIC 152,  MATH 132

Sophomore Year:

ASTRON 228 (Spring),  additional 200+ level astronomy course, PHYSICS 281 (Fall), PHYSICS 287/289 (Fall), PHYSICS 284/286 (Spring), MATH 233

Junior/Senior Years:

ASTRON 301 (Spring),  ASTRON 335 (Fall),  ASTRON 339 (Spring),  additional 200+ level astronomy course, additional 300+ level astronomy course