

# ASTRONOMY

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Astronomy is one of the fastest growing fields of sciences, in which we seek an understanding of the physics of the Universe to explain current observations. Courses in this field range from broad topics such as the Solar System and Extragalactic Astronomy to specific courses in Astronomy, Physics, and Mathematics. Solar system formation, galaxy evolution, and the origin and fate of the Universe/Cosmology are foundational topics. Within them astronomers study the planets, and other objects within the solar system such as asteroids, comets, and classic Kuiper Belt Objects. Astronomers seek precision measurements of stellar positions and properties, the use of telescopes above and beneath Earth's atmosphere in every part of the electromagnetic spectrum to observe everything from stellar birth to black hole dynamics, and some of the most energetic processes in the Universe such as the collision and inspiraling of massive objects. Planets beyond the Sun, and the life and death processes of stars, galaxy formation, as well as the inclusion of gravitational wave astronomy provide clues and testbeds for theories to explain the changing universe around us. Space exploration both robotic and human take us to the Moon, in-situ on planets, and into interstellar space. Unique fields such as astrobiology and the search for intelligent life in the Universe are all part of this dynamical field.

No associate degree awarded with a major in Astronomy. Astronomy courses may be used to fulfill requirements for an Associate in Science degree with a major in Math/Science and various ADTs. Please see the department listings for degree requirements.

## Career Opportunities

Positions are available in both government and private sector:

Astronomer, Planetary Scientist, Astrophysicist, Astrobiologist, Theoretical Physicist, Cosmologist, Space Scientist and multiple, related Engineer and Researcher

## Transfer

- University of California, Riverside: Astronomy or Physics Major

For the most up-to-date information on this program and others, visit [assist.org](https://assist.org) (<https://assist.org/>). Please stop by the Transfer Center in Building 23 or make an appointment with a counselor if you have questions.

## Astronomy Courses

### **ASTR 101 Descriptive Astronomy (3.0 Units)**

A comprehensive study of astronomy. The historical development of astronomy, the structure of the solar system, modern techniques and instruments, the character of nebulae and galaxies, stellar character and theories, the philosophical implications of astronomical discoveries.

Lecture Hours: 54.0

Transfer: Transfers to both UC/CSU