

Astronomy (ASTR)

What is Astronomy? Astronomy is the study of heavenly bodies, such as planets, stars, and galaxies. Astronomers use observations of the sky to learn more about the universe we live in. These observations can be made with no instruments, with simple telescopes, or with very sophisticated apparatus able to sense electromagnetic waves beyond the visible spectrum with great resolution. Astronomy is one of the oldest of the natural sciences and some of the great discoveries in related disciplines, such as physics, trace their origin to astronomical studies.

Why study Astronomy at College of Alameda? Our lower-division introductory astronomy courses introduce students to the key concepts and principles in astronomy. By using observational techniques and learning how to apply laws of nature to explain astronomical phenomena, students develop critical problem-solving skills, which help them succeed academically at four year colleges and universities and also make them marketable in the labor market.

ASTR 1

Introduction to Astronomy

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR or P/NP)
- Recommended preparation: MATH 201 or 210D, and 202
- Not open for credit to students who have completed or are concurrently enrolled in ASTR 10.
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Introduction to the universe and insight into its mysteries: Development of modern astronomy, light, astronomical instruments, a brief survey of the solar system, the Sun, the stars, novae and supernovae, neutron stars, black holes, galaxies, and cosmology.
1911.00

AA/AS area 1; CSU area B1; IGETC area 5A

ASTR 10

Descriptive Astronomy

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR)
- Prerequisites: MATH 230 or appropriate placement into transfer level Math through multiple measures assessment process
- Not open for credit to students who have completed or are currently enrolled in ASTR 1.
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Survey of astronomy at a descriptive level: Development of modern astronomy, light, astronomical instruments, the sun, formation and evolution of the solar system, the terrestrial planets, the Jovian planets, asteroids, comets, planets around other stars, and a brief survey of stars.
1911.00

AA/AS area 1