

ASTRONOMY (ASTR)

ASTR 3303. Life in the Universe. 3 Hours.

Students explore the evolution of life on Earth from an astronomical perspective and investigate the likelihood that this could happen elsewhere in the universe. This course also explores the possibility of communicating with intelligent species elsewhere in our galaxy and how humanity could best go about doing so. This course is typically taught every other spring term.

Prerequisite: PHYS 1403 or PHYS 1404.

ASTR 3383. Cosmic Catastrophes. 3 Hours.

Students build on knowledge of basic astronomical concepts discussed in previous coursework. Topics may include supernovae, neutron stars, black holes, gamma-ray bursts, worm holes, extra dimensions, and determination of the origin, state, and fate of the universe. This course is typically taught every other fall term.

Prerequisite: PHYS 1403 with a C or better.

ASTR 4100. Astronomy Seminar for Astronomy Minors. 1 Hour.

Students discuss current scientific literature in the field of astronomy and astrophysics. Topics may include dark matter, gravity waves, exoplanets, planetary formation, and other recent astronomical discoveries of interest.

Prerequisite: Astronomy minor or departmental approval, Senior standing.