

## **Astronomy**

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### **Program Administrator**

John Perdew, Physics (Chair)

The student who wants a one-semester survey of astronomy should take Astronomy 100. Students who complete Astronomy 100 may not take Astronomy 101 or 102 for credit. The solar system is treated in more depth in 101. Similarly, 102 treats stellar astronomy in depth.

### **ASTR 100 Descriptive Astronomy (3)**

Staff. A one-semester survey of astronomy for the liberal arts student. The solar system, properties and evolution of stars and galaxies, and cosmology. Recent discoveries in astronomy are emphasized. Students who take 100 may not take 101 or 102.

### **ASTR 101 The Solar System (3)**

Staff. The organization and origin of the solar system, the earth in motion, the sun, the moon, the planets, comets, and meteors. Not open for credit to students who have completed 100.

### **ASTR 102 Stellar Astronomy (3)**

Staff. The stars, their distances, spectra, magnitudes. Stellar atmospheres and interiors, stellar evolution. Variable and collapsing stars, nebulae, galaxies and cosmology. Not open for credit to students who have completed 100.

### **ASTR 110 Observational Astronomy (4)**

Staff. Prerequisite: ASTR 100 or approval of instructor. Activities, readings, and projects in observational astronomy. This course provides students with practical experience in observational techniques, while guiding them to an understanding of the role of measurement in the scientific method.

### **ASTR 301 Archaeoastronomy (3)**

Mr. Purrington. A study of ancient Old- and New-World astronomy as exhibited in archaic myth, megalithic monuments, Mesoamerican buildings, stelae and manuscripts, and alignments of archaeological sites. The fundamentals of spherical astronomy will be presented, with emphasis on horizon phenomena, making it possible to explore the implications of possible astronomical alignments, astronomical content of Mesoamerican codices, and the sky-lore of a variety of cultures. Special attention will be given to early Bronze Age megalith monuments in Britain, to Middle American astronomy, and to astronomy of the Native American Indians.

See also Physics 607, Physics 675.