

What is Astronomy?

The Astronomy program develops the skills necessary to tackle complex and ill-defined problems within the physical sciences. The program prepares students for careers in several broad areas. The B.A. is aimed primarily at students interested in secondary education in the physical sciences, science policy, and science and technical writing. The B.A. can also prepare students to continue their studies in Astronomy in graduate school as well.

What are the major requirements?

Go to www.catalogs.umn.edu/programs.html and select “undergraduate majors.”

How do I declare an Astronomy major?

You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.

1. Talk with someone from the department: an adviser, a professor, or a teaching assistant, to learn more about the major and its requirements.
2. When you decide upon an Astronomy major, meet with the appropriate person from the department to complete a One-Year Program Plan.
3. Bring a copy of the form to your CLA student community.
4. If you decide to change your major, contact your CLA student community to learn more about your new major’s declaration process.

What can I do with a major in Astronomy?

Skills

Astronomy majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers.

These skills include:

- Analytical and critical thinking skills
- Math and physics knowledge
- Oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work independently as well as part of a team

Employment

Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:

- Science—observatory and laboratory positions, computer programming, physicists
- Government—public information, campaigns, federal offices
- Museums—science museums, planetariums
- Business—marketing, human resources, sales, consulting, recruiting
- Education—teaching, research

Today’s workplace requires individuals with interpersonal skills, the ability to communicate effectively, an ability to solve problems, and adaptability. CLA graduates find that they are well-prepared in all these areas and that their education—especially when combined

For more information:

About the Astronomy major:

Undergraduate Advising
356 Physics Building
(612) 624-0211

<http://www.astro.umn.edu>

About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:

CLA Health and Natural Sciences Student Community
B-18 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-6044

<http://www.hns.class.umn.edu>

or

CLA Martin Luther King, Jr. Program
19 Johnston Hall
(612) 625-2300

<http://www.class.umn.edu/mlk/>

mlk@class.cla.umn.edu

About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:

Career and Community Learning Center
135 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-7577

www.cclc.umn.edu

cclc@class.cla.umn.edu

About graduation with honors:

CLA Honors Division
20 Nicholson
(612) 624-5522

www.cla.umn.edu/honors/

honors@class.cla.umn.edu

with experience gained through internships, volunteer positions, past jobs, and other collegiate involvement—makes them competitive.

The **Career & Community Learning Center** provides students with the tools to identify and pursue potential careers. An extensive resource room, career courses and workshops, and a helpful staff are just some of the ways we can help.

Remember!

You have not declared a major until you have:

- completed a Major Program form with your major adviser,
- filed a copy with the major department,
- and filed a copy with your CLA student community.

Don't forget: keep a copy for yourself!