
ASTRONOMY MINOR



The Astronomy Minor provides students an opportunity to learn about and analyze astronomical phenomena and processes. The Minor explores our current scientific understanding of the solar system, stars, galaxies, and cosmology. In addition, the Minor enhances familiarity and skills in observational astronomy, including telescope data collection, analysis, and interpretation. A Minor in Astronomy provides a background for graduate level studies in astronomy or work in related fields. Interested students should see an Astronomy Minor Advisor.

Please see the back of this page for more information or contact the Astronomy Minor Advisor: David Mitchell (dsmitch@calpoly.edu)

Required courses on semesters:

PHYS 1143	General Physics II	4 units
PHYS 2211	General Physics III: Modern Physics	4 units
ASTR 3301	Stars and Planetary Systems (Fall)	3 units
ASTR 3302	Galaxies and Cosmology (Spring)	3 units
ASTR 4444	Observational Astronomy (Fall)	4 units

Required Units: 18 units

Semester prerequisites:

Pre-requisite for ASTR 3302: ASTR 3301

Pre-requisite for ASTR 4444: ASTR 3301

WORKSHEET FOR THE ASTRONOMY MINOR

Please fill in the worksheet (see the link on the Astronomy Minor webpage), either with the information on when (semester/year) you *took* the required classes (if applicable) or when (semester/year) you are *planning* on taking the required classes. To help you with the planning, we recommend filling in this worksheet as soon as possible. Email the worksheet to the astronomy minor advisor (Dr. David Mitchell, dsmitch@calpoly.edu) who will start the process of declaring the astronomy minor for you. You will then receive an email by Adobe Sign (CSM Forms) to review and fill out the Astronomy Minor declaration. Under “Intending to” select “Apply/Declare”. Fill in the yellow highlighted boxes with your information and sign the form. The form will then be routed for signatures by the Astronomy Minor Advisor and Department Chair and once completed, it will be automatically sent to the Office of the Registrar.

While you do not need to apply for an astronomy minor or declare it before taking any astronomy classes, we recommend that you complete this process well before you plan to graduate.

Please note that the Astronomy minor is not "degree applicable", so declaring it does not help with registration times.

MINORS (GENERAL)

A minor is an integrated, coherent group of courses (comprising 15 to 24 units in most cases), which gives the student knowledge in an area that lies outside of the major field of study. Please see [Programs](#) for the list of minors.

Requirements for the minor:

- At least half of the units must be from upper-division courses (3000- or 4000-level)
- At least half of the units must be taken at Cal Poly (in residence). For the French, German, Italian Studies, and Spanish minors, the requirement for students studying abroad is at least one third of the units must be taken at Cal Poly; this allowance is for study abroad programs only and does not apply to any domestic transfer credit.
- Not more than one-third of the courses in a minor can be graded with student-selected Credit/No Credit (CR/NC), Courses that have mandatory CR/NC grading are not included in the one-third maximum.
- A minimum 2.00 GPA is required in all units counted for completion of the minor

The minor must be completed prior to, or at the same time as, the requirements for the bachelor's degree. A major and a minor may not be taken in the same degree program, and a minor is not required for a degree.

Students who wish to earn a minor should contact the department offering the academic minor as early as possible in the program and fill out the appropriate agreement form. Students may select a minor which has requirements from a catalog that is different from that of their major.

The minor form must then be submitted to the Office of the Registrar. The completion of the minor is noted on the student's transcript but is not shown on the diploma. In no case is a diploma awarded for the minor.