

AST-ASTRONOMY (AST)

AST 1002 Introduction to Astronomy (3 Credits)

This course provides a comprehensive look at modern astronomy, emphasizing the use of the scientific method and the application of physical laws to understand the Universe including Earth and its environment. Throughout this course, students will develop the ability to discern scientific knowledge from non-scientific information by using critical thinking. Student Learning Outcomes: -Students will define terms used to measure and describe the universe. -Students will explain the processes involved in the formation and evolution of celestial bodies over astronomical time according to different models and theories. - Students will describe how scientific theories evolve in response to new observations and critically evaluate their impact on society. -Students will formulate empirically testable hypotheses derived from the study of physical processes and phenomena. -Students will apply logical reasoning skills through scientific criticism and argument to separate science from non-science. -Students will gather and analyze astronomical data and communicate results in graphic and written forms.

General Education