

# ASTROPHYSICS

Bachelor of Arts

## CONNECT WITH US

### Events

Attend department events with students, staff, and faculty. Join our **Advising Discord**, follow us on **Instagram**, **Facebook**, and **Twitter**, and visit our **Astro events and news**.

## ADVISING

**Brianna Franklin** is the Academic Advisor. Contact her for more information on major and minor requirements, policies, procedures, department resources, events and activities. Advising appointments can be made using Calcentral. For general information, please contact [astroadvising@berkeley.edu](mailto:astroadvising@berkeley.edu).

Join our **Advising Discord** and view our **Astro wiki page** for information about courses, resources and more.

**Eugene Chiang** is the Undergraduate Faculty Advisor. Email him for office hours and assistance with content of courses, research, graduate school and career development.

### Climate Advisors and Undergraduate Student Representative

Do you have any feedback or concerns on climate, curriculum, etc.? Check in with the **Undergraduate Climate Advisors** or the **Undergraduate Student Representative**, and join our bi-annual Town Hall meeting with the Chair and Faculty Advisor.

## HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone's Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit [ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps](http://ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps) for the latest version of this major map.

Berkeley

Astronomy

501 Campbell Hall #3411  
Berkeley, CA 94720-3411

[astro.berkeley.edu](http://astro.berkeley.edu)



Photo credit: Astronomy Department

## INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The UC Berkeley Astrophysics Undergraduate program prepares students to understand the world beyond our own! The Department of Astronomy endeavors to meet that need by providing students access to a broad spectrum of courses taught by prize-winning faculty, state-of-the-art facilities, first-class scientists and researchers, and opportunities to conduct research projects. The Astrophysics major provides students physical reasoning, computational and analytical skills and prepares them for a career in academia, data science, tech and space industry, and many other fields.



Photo credit: UC Regents / Lick Observatory

**“ I like the closeness of the Astronomy department, how there are frequent chances to interact with other undergraduates, graduates, postdocs, and faculty alike. ”**

– Nicholas Rui, Class of '20

## THE ASTROPHYSICS CURRICULUM

Berkeley Astronomy courses cover an array of topics. The lower division ASTRO 7A & 7B courses give a comprehensive overview of our Universe, from exoplanets to cosmology. The upper division courses offer an in-depth view on planetary astrophysics (162), stellar physics (160), and relativistic astrophysics and cosmology (161). Our program stands out by its unique and rigorous lab courses, including the optical-IR (120), the radio astronomy (121), and the data science (128) labs. Courses are taught by expert faculty, ensuring a more enlightened and thorough educational experience.

## AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Join the Undergraduate Astronomical Society.
- Learn how to program in Python early by taking our DeCal course, PHYSICS 77/88, or CS 61A.
- Conduct a research project with one of our world-renowned scientists in the Astronomy Department, SSL, or LBL.
- Apply to a summer REU program
- Apply to an undergraduate student instructor (UGSI) or grader position.
- Join CalTeach to prepare for a career in education. Talk to CalTeach faculty director Eugene Chiang.

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## DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY



### WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

The undergraduate program prepares students for astrophysics graduate work or other advanced degrees in related science and engineering fields. It also prepares students for careers in teaching or for working in data science and other technical fields. Our students graduate with research and lab experience, computational and analytical skills, and an education that will equip them in their chosen fields and professional endeavours.

### Jobs and Employers

Chemist, Argonne National Lab  
Data Scientist, Lockheed Martin  
Mission Integration Engineer, SpaceX  
Process Engineer, DiCon Fiberoptics  
Quantitative Analyst, BofA  
Research Asst., Cambridge University  
Research Intern, NASA-Ames Ctr.  
Scientist, Stanford University  
Scientist, James Webb Space Telescope  
Software Engineer, Amazon  
Software Engineer, Samsung  
Tutor, C2 Education

### Graduate Programs

Applied Mathematics, PhD  
Astronomy, PhD  
Astrophysics, PhD  
Chemical Engineering, PhD  
Computer Science, PhD  
Data Science, PhD  
Earth and Planetary Science, PhD  
Geophysics and Seismology, PhD  
Neuroscience, PhD  
Physics, PhD

Examples gathered from the **First Destination Survey** of recent Berkeley graduates.