

What you can do with your **ASTRONOMY-PHYSICS MAJOR**



Major Skills:



Problem Solving & Critical Thinking

You learn how to define and analyze problems, identify factors that contribute to outcomes, analyze connections, and solve quantitative and qualitative problems proficiently.



Computational & Data Analysis

You learn to collect and organize quantitative and qualitative astronomical data; plan astronomical observations using scientific computing methods; test hypotheses; and properly conduct and interpret statistical analysis.



Teamwork

You collaborate inclusively with people from different local and global cultures.



Data Modeling

You build and interpret mathematical models of astronomical data using scientific computing methods.



Professional and Ethical Conduct

You demonstrate a professional demeanor, appropriately credit the contributions of others, and possess the ability to address a breakdown of professional ethics and standards if experienced or observed.



Communication

You communicate data, concepts and results with scientific peers and non-technical audiences in writing and through oral and visual presentations.

Supplement Your Skills With:



Gain Experience:
Research, Internships,
& Part-Time Work



Ethical Conduct in
Data Analysis &
Privacy



Career & Self
Development



Learn Programming
(eg. Python) and
statistical analysis



Experience Fostering
Professional Equity &
Inclusion



Leadership On & Off
Campus

Chart Your Path Forward

Activate Your Handshake Account

for connections to jobs,
internships, employer &
alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities

to discover a wide variety of
fields where you can turn your
major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising

from SuccessWorks to make a
plan, whether you're a first-year
student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu

Put your Astronomy-Physics major to **WORK**

Common Alumni Job Titles:

- Software Engineer
- Professor
- Astronomer
- Chief Executive Officer
- Data Scientist
- Engineering Manager
- Software Developer
- Technical Services Manager
- Aerospace Engineer



Top Employers of Alumni:

- Amazon
- CDW
- Cerner Corporation
- Eastman Chemical Company
- Epic
- Google
- Intelsat
- John F. Kennedy Space Center
- Lockheed Martin
- MIT Lincoln Laboratory
- MMT Observatory
- NASA
- Oshkosh Corporation
- Space Telescope Science Institute
- Systems Engineering Group
- Uline
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- US Marine Corps
- Waukesha Metal Products
- Wisconsin and Geological and Natural History Survey

Recent Grads' Career Plans:

- 59%** Continuing Education or Grad School
- 38%** Employment
- 3%** Other

Where Alumni Live & Work:

- 37%** Wisconsin →
- 9%** California →
- 8%** Illinois →
- 6%** Washington →
- 39%** Other →



"My Astronomy-Physics major has given me a range of quantitative skills I've used in my roles as a data analyst, software engineer, and technical manager. At a basic level, the ability to think about and interpret data is essential. As a result, I was well-prepared to hit the ground running in my first job out of college. The emphasis on collaborative work helped prepare me for the modern workplace where the problems are too big to be tackled alone."

Alex Viana, 2007
VP of Data, Vercel
Chicago, IL



"A major in Astronomy-Physics is versatile and rewarding. I developed skills in software engineering and large-data management to work on advanced optical systems for the U.S. Department of Defense. Critical problem-solving skills and knowledge in a range of high-level topics helps me be successful in my professional career."

Jalyn Krause, 2021
Modeling and Analysis Assistant Staff, MIT Lincoln Laboratory
Lexington, MA

Career Communities for Astronomy-Physics

Majors

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources, and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Astronomy-Physics majors can start.

- Technology, Data & Analytics
- Scientific Research & Development
- Government, Policy, International Affairs & Law
- Consulting, Finance, Management & Client Relations

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.

successworks.wisc.edu