

MINOR IN ASTRONOMY

The Minor in Astronomy, offered jointly by the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences (<https://catalog.mit.edu/schools/science/earth-atmospheric-planetary-sciences>) and the Department of Physics (<https://catalog.mit.edu/schools/science/physics>), covers the observational and theoretical foundations of astronomy. The minor requires seven subjects as follows:

Astronomy, Mathematics, and Physics		
8.03	Physics III	12
8.282[[Introduction to Astronomy	9
18.03	Differential Equations ¹	12
Astrophysics		
8.284	Modern Astrophysics	12
or 8.286	The Early Universe	
Planetary Astronomy		
<i>Select one of the following:</i>		12
12.400	Our Space Odyssey	
12.420	Essentials of Planetary Science	
12.425[[Extrasolar Planets: Physics and Detection Techniques	
Instrumentation and Observations		
<i>Select one of the following:</i>		12-18
12.410[[Observational Techniques of Optical Astronomy	
12.43[[Space Systems Engineering	
12.431[[Space Systems Development	
Independent Project in Astronomy		
<i>Select one of the following:</i>		9-12
8.UR	Undergraduate Research	
or 12.UR	Undergraduate Research	
8.THU	Undergraduate Physics Thesis	
or 12.THU	Undergraduate Thesis	
12.411	Astronomy Field Camp	
Total Units		78-87

¹ 18.032 *Differential Equations* is also an acceptable alternative.

A maximum of three subjects can count toward the astronomy minor, and a major or another minor. Further information on the minor can be obtained from Professor Michael A. McDonald (mcdonald@space.mit.edu), 37-664B, 617-324-1075.