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.

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

- **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.

- **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.

- **Data Modeling**
  You build and interpret mathematical models of astronomical data using scientific computing methods.

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

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Supplement Your Skills With:

- **Gain Experience: Research, Internships, & Part-Time Work**
- **Learn Programming (eg. Python) and statistical analysis**
- **Ethical Conduct in Data Analysis & Privacy**
- **Experience Fostering Professional Equity & Inclusion**
- **Career & Self Development**
- **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
### 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

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“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

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### 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