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HILO

PHYSICS *and* ASTRONOMY



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The University of Hawai'i Hilo Physics and Astronomy programs provide a unique and excellent undergraduate education within the College of Natural Science and Health Sciences. All faculty have active research projects that provide opportunities for students to gain valuable experience through internships and directed-studies courses. The programs are designed to prepare students for a wide range of careers in physics and astronomy, from fundamental research to education and public outreach, from data science to engineering. Many career options are available without the need for graduate studies.

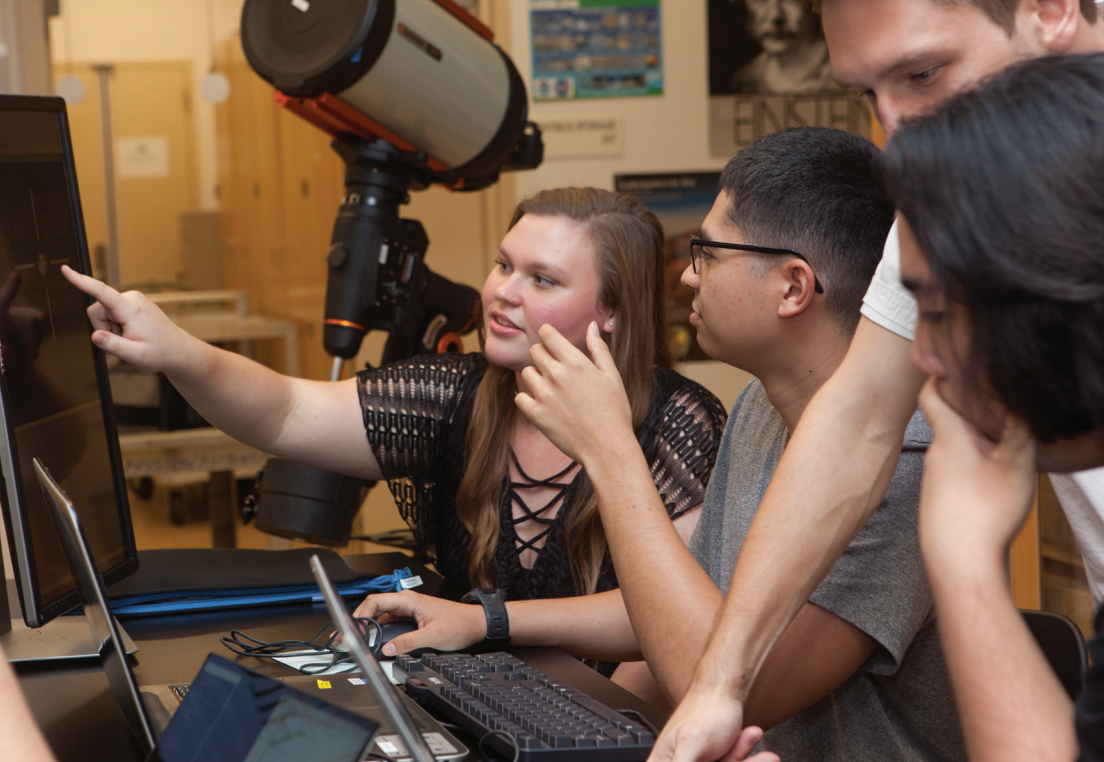
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PHYSICS

The BA Physics prepares students for a wide range of careers, with knowledge and skills applicable to engineering, computer or information systems, and other STEM fields, including education. In fact, physics majors generally score well on medical and law school exams (MCAT and LSAT, respectively), because of their highly developed problem-solving skills. The physics program provides students with a foundation in general physics and allows students to choose courses from other natural sciences.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ASTRONOMY

The BS Astronomy provides the training needed for students seeking careers in astronomy, as professional research astronomers, observatory technical staff, or educators. UH Hilo's astronomy program provides students with unique access to professional optical, near-infrared, and radio telescopes. In their first year, students learn to operate small telescopes and build from there, culminating in their junior and senior year with specialized training to prepare and use 8–10-m telescopes on Maunakea.





DOUBLE MAJORING

Physics is the study of how the Universe works, and astronomy is the study of how the Universe came to be like it is today. They are two disciplines that go hand-in-hand. This is reflected in many students double majoring, which is readily supported by the programs' requirements.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES AT UH HILO

UH Hilo faculty and students have access to all professional telescopes atop Maunakea, to carry out research and educational activities. In addition, Hilo has a vibrant astronomy community, and students collaborate with observatory astronomers on research and technical projects, through internships at the observatories, obtainable year-round. Several of our alumni are working in the local community and can provide practical advice for pursuing a career in astronomy.

The University Astrophysics Club is comprised of physics and astronomy students who meet regularly and participate in a range of activities, from outreach events on and off campus to study sessions.



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