

PLANETARY SCIENCE AND ASTRONOMY, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2026-27 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

Planetary Science and Astronomy, B.S. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ASTRO 20	2 CHEM 110 ^{*†‡}	3
MATH 140 ^{*†‡}	4 CHEM 111 [†]	1
ASTRO 1, 5, or 6	3 MATH 141 ^{†‡}	4
GEOSC 1 ^{*†‡}	3 ASTRO 120 or 130 ^{*†‡}	3
General Education Course	3 ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15 [†]	3
	15	14

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 110 ^{*†‡}	4 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [†]	3
CHEM 112 ^{*†}	3 CMPSC 201	3
CHEM 113 [†]	1 EARTH 103N (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	3
PHYS 211 or 250	4 General Education Course	3
ASTRO 140 ^{*†‡}	3 STAT 200 ^{*#}	4
	15	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ASTRO 401 [*]	4 ASTRO 402W [*]	3
ENGL 202C ^{†‡}	3 PHYS 212 or 251	4
EARTH 402 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	3 Supporting Course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3

GEOSC 160 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options)	3 Advanced Elective (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
Supporting Course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5

16 14.5

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ASTRO 120 or 130 ^{*†‡}	3 METEO 101 (consult with an academic adviser for alternative options) [†]	3
GEOSC/BIOL 474 [*]	3 Advanced Elective (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
Advanced Elective	3 Supporting Course (consult with an academic adviser for options)	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5	
	16.5	15

Total Credits 122

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.