The Astronomy-Physics option provides courses and laboratory work in astronomy and physics, featuring an astronomical observatory with one eight-inch and one 14-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope, an eight-inch Newtonian telescope, an eight-inch fixed focal point telescope for persons with disabilities, two spectrographs, a hydrogen-alpha filter, an objective prism, and two charge-coupled devices (CCD). A 20-inch telescope and a 16-inch telescope are installed under dark skies at a site remote from the campus. They are used for training advanced students and for research work in photometry and spectroscopy. Opportunities are provided for students to do research with Astronomy-Physics faculty.

Admission Requirements

Courses are open to undergraduate and master’s degree students. In 400-level courses, however, graduate students are expected to do additional work, including reading selected primary sources and, when appropriate, completing additional observatory/laboratory work.

Degree Opportunities

Students may pursue an individualized B.A. degree in Liberal Studies or an M.A. degree in Liberal and Integrated Studies. Undergraduate students interested in pursuing Astronomy/Physics as a thematic activity should contact the Liberal Studies department at lis@uis.edu, or call (217) 206-7456. Graduate students interested in pursuing Astronomy/Physics as a thematic activity should contact the Liberal and Integrative Studies department at Int@uis.edu, or call (217) 206-6962.