GRADUATE PROGRAM IN ASTRONOMY AT Yale
Why Yale Astronomy for your Ph.D.?

Plenty of resources for research and a supportive intellectual community
ACCESS TO WORLD-CLASS OBSERVING FACILITIES

We have excellent resources for observing, including on-campus observing facilities and telescope-time reserved specifically for our department members.

- Keck: 24 nights per year
- Palomar: 1/8 share
- SDSS V: full partnership
EASY-ACCESS HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING FACILITIES

The Yale Center for Research Computing (YCRC) provides HPC resources freely available for all students to use.
GUARANTEED FUNDING

Teaching beyond the University requirements is optional to earn some extra cash, but your main funding as a researcher is secure for 5-6 years.

SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

A fun and supportive graduate student community. Class of ~4-5 students admitted each year, and a total of ~25-30 students in the entire program.
A WIDE RANGE OF RESEARCH INTERESTS ACROSS FACULTY MEMBERS

For listing of faculty by research interest see: https://astronomy.yale.edu/research

EXOPLANETS
GALAXY EVOLUTION
COSMOLOGY
STAR FORMATION
SOLAR AND STELLAR ASTROPHYSICS
...AND MORE

Students complete 2 short research projects in their first two years "before" beginning PhD research. This allows for a fuller exploration of research opportunities.
STRUCTURE OF THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

FIRST 2 YEARS

- 10 courses + 2 research projects (1 observational / experimental, 1 theory)
- 4 Semesters as Teaching Assistant (required)
- 1 Professional Development Seminar (taught every semester during PhD)

END OF 2ND YEAR

Ph.D. Qualifying Exam

1. Written exam on general knowledge of astronomy aligned with coursework detailed to the left
2. Oral exam on proposed PhD project

YEARS 3+

- PhD research
- 1 semester as Teaching Assistant (required)
- Yearly progress committee meetings, dissertation progress reports
CURRENT WEEKLY ASTRONOMY EVENTS

Weekly activities are open to all department members

Astronomy Colloquium
Galaxy Lunch
Stellar Astrophysics Journal Club
Exoplanets and Stars Seminar
Data Science x Astro Seminar (bi-weekly)
IDEAS (Inclusivity, Diversity, & Equity in Astro) Journal Club
PLEASE COME JOIN US!

- Are you curious to learn and figure things out?
- Do you have desire for mastery and for learning new ways of problem-solving?
- Do you have core competence in foundational material – physics and mathematics?
- Have you had exposure to research methods and experience with research project, if opportunities were available?
- Do you have the capacity to deal with the ups and downs that are part of long-term intellectual learning?
- Do you have enthusiasm for research?
- Are you excited to belong to a scientific community working on cutting-edge problems?
Leitner Family Observatory & Planetarium

ASTRONOMY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH CENTER:

- Weekly Public Nights - planetarium shows, public observing
- Summer Research for High School Students (YSPA)
- Weekly area school group visits
- Teaching experience for grad/undergrad students
- Astro 1xx lab exercises
- Astronomy Department Events

Classroom/computer lab with museum-quality display panels
50-seat digital planetarium theater
3m radio telescope

16-inch RCT with CCD Imagers, Spectrographs
8-inch 1876 Reed Refractor
Observing deck with piers for small telescopes

Yale Astronomy