Astronomy 596/496 APA

The Art and Practice of Astronomy

Prof. Brian Fields

Fall Semester 2015
Thursdays 4:00-4:50 pm, Room 134 Astronomy



This course is open to graduate students with interests in astronomy, astrophysics, and/or cosmology. This course will introduce students to some of the tools, opportunities, expectations, and challenges of a career in astronomy and astrophysics research. For about half of the class meetings, students will collaborate interactively to address open-ended research questions qualitatively and quantitatively, using order-of-magnitude and dimensional analyses. The rest of the course meetings will focus on professional preparation and skills, including: scientific writing, oral presentation skills, building a curriculum vitae, posdoctoral fellowships, faculty and research positions, grantsmanship, and ethics. Senior undergraduates considering graduate school are also welcome.

Grading will be S/U. Attendance and active participation are required. Credit: 1 hour.

Image: Camille Flammarion http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap010101.html