

Galaxies and Extragalactic Astrophysics

Code: 44080
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
High Energy Physics, Astrophysics and Cosmology	OT	0

Contact

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Teachers

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

None.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The course is intended to acquaint students with the basic concepts about galaxies and extragalactic astronomy research in general.

We want to present the students how we have been learning about the galaxy properties throughout the years to reach our current understanding of galaxy formation and evolution and what the current lines of research are nowadays.

Competences

- Formulate and tackle problems, both open and more defined, identifying the most relevant principles and using approaches where necessary to reach a solution, which should be presented with an explanation of the suppositions and approaches.

- Understand the bases of advanced topics selected at the frontier of high energy physics, astrophysics and cosmology and apply them consistently.

Learning Outcomes

1. Distinguish between the different types of active galaxy.
2. Tackle the problem of the evolution of galaxies in its totality.
3. Understand the fundamentals and evolution of the Milky Way.

Content

- Historical introduction
- Galaxy Classification
- Galaxy Dynamics
- Global Properties of Galaxies
- The Milky Way
- The Local Group
- Stellar Population Synthesis Models
- Photometric Redshifts
- Gravitational Lenses
- Clusters of Galaxies
- Active Galaxies and Quasars
- High Redshift Galaxies
- Galaxy Models

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	45	1.8	2, 1, 3
Type: Supervised			
Exercises, presentations, discussion, literature work	45	1.8	2, 1, 3
Type: Autonomous			
Study of lectures material	45	1.8	2, 1, 3

Lectures and exercises.

Classwork and homework.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exam	50%	2	0.08	2, 1, 3
Homework exercises	20%	8	0.32	2, 1, 3
Oral presentation	20%	1	0.04	2, 1, 3
Resit exam	50%	2	0.08	2, 1, 3
Summary of seminar material	10%	2	0.08	2, 1, 3

This subject/module does not foresee the single assessment system.

Exam, homework, oral presentation and summary of seminar material.

Resit exam.

Bibliography

"Galactic Astronomy", Binney and Merrifield, Princeton University Press, 1998

"Galactic Dynamics", Binney and Tremaine, Princeton University Press, 1987

"Galaxy Formation and Evolution", Ho, van den Bosch and White, Cambridge University Press, 2010

Software

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(TEm) Theory (master)	1	English	second semester	morning-mixed