

# Alfred University Astronomy

SUMMER INSTITUTE June 26-30, 2011

Each year Alfred University welcomes students from all over the country to take part in our popular Summer Astronomy Institute.

This dynamic program is directed by the Alfred University Physics and Astronomy faculty, all recognized experts in their fields. Current research interests of the faculty include variable stars, asteroid measurements, and the study of solar activity.

The institute is conducted at the Stull Observatory on the Alfred University campus. This facility, one of the best teaching observatories in the country, is equipped with telescopes ranging from 8-32 inches in diameter as well as electronic detectors and support computers.

Students enjoy a mix of night and daytime activities involving extensive use of the observatory's telescopes and electronics. The program also includes fun recreational activities.



## WHO CAN ATTEND?

This exciting residential program is designed for students entering grades 10-12 who are interested in pursuing an education in math or the physical sciences. The number of participants is kept small to allow for individualized attention and optimal use of the observatory equipment. Attendance ranges from 20-24 each year.

## INSTITUTE TOPICS

Sample institute topics include: **Astronomical Basics, Variable Star Photometry, Asteroid Astrometry and Photometry, Astronomical Imaging of Nebulae, Clusters and Galaxies, Observation and Analysis of Solar Activity, Imaging and Lunar/Solar System Studies, Lunar and Planetary Science, Asteroids, Solar Flares, Variable Star Photometry, Stellar Evolution, CCD Imaging, Galactic Structure, Special Relativity, Black Holes, Cosmology and Spectroscopy.**

Program note: While the weather in Alfred in late June is usually very good, we cannot guarantee clear skies and there will be no refunds due to weather conditions.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

When not in classes, students have *lots of fun* participating in a variety of recreational activities. Planned activities include indoor and outdoor games, movies, visits to a nearby lake for picnics and campfires, swimming, hikes, bowling, hayrides, social gatherings at the Terra Cotta Coffee House, a farewell party on the last night, and more. Alfred University admissions interviews and campus tours will be available by appointment on Thursday afternoon. Living, dining and learning together, students have a great opportunity to get to know each other and develop lasting friendships.

## TUITION, ROOM & BOARD

Students must arrive between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. for registration on Sunday and will leave after lunch on Thursday. The institute fee is \$850\* (includes a \$100 deposit). This covers tuition, supervision, program materials, recreational activities, room and board from dinner on the first day through lunch on the last day. Students stay in University residence halls (2 per room) and **must provide their own pillows, blankets and bed/bath linens** (bed linens must fit the extra-long twin residence hall beds). Delicious, all-you-can-eat, cafeteria-style meals are served in the University dining hall.

\*There will be a \$30 charge for checks returned for insufficient funds.

## HOW TO APPLY

We will begin accepting applications January 3, 2011. Students who wish to apply must return:

1. the attached **application form** (or the PDF version found at: [www.alfred.edu/summer/camps/astronomy.cfm](http://www.alfred.edu/summer/camps/astronomy.cfm))
2. a copy of an **up-to-date transcript or report card**
3. **two letters of recommendation from teachers** (on official school stationery)
4. a **one-page essay** telling us why you would like to attend this institute (in your own words, with your signature at the bottom)
5. a **\$100 deposit** (non-refundable unless you are not accepted into the program). *Full payment of the balance (\$750) is due May 27.* (Sorry, no financial aid or scholarships are available.)

Please send all items in one packet and submit by the **application deadline: April 15, 2011.** (Later applications *may* be considered only if space is available.) Incomplete or illegible applications cannot be accepted.

Further details and directions will be sent to all students upon acceptance.



## INSTITUTE APPLICATION

Type or print in ink only. Fill in all sections.

**Deadline: April 15, 2011**

student's name \_\_\_\_\_  
gender:  female  male \_\_\_\_\_  
first name preference for name tag \_\_\_\_\_ student's email address \_\_\_\_\_  
street address/PO box \_\_\_\_\_  
city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zipcode \_\_\_\_\_  
parent/guardian name \_\_\_\_\_  
parent/guardian phone \_\_\_\_\_ parent/guardian email address \_\_\_\_\_  
student's birth date \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_  
student's school \_\_\_\_\_ year student will graduate from high school \_\_\_\_\_

### Please check one of the following:

- My deposit check in the amount of \$100 is enclosed.  
(Make checks payable to *Alfred University*.)  
 Please charge the deposit to my credit card  
 VISA  MasterCard  AMEX  Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV# \_\_\_\_\_  
(3 digit code on back of card)

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Send with other application materials to:

Office of Summer Programs, Alfred University, 1 Saxon Drive  
Alfred, NY 14802, fax to 607-871-2045, or scan and email to  
[summerpro@alfred.edu](mailto:summerpro@alfred.edu)

If you fax the application form and materials, please call us at  
607-871-2612 to make sure we receive them and that everything is  
readable.

[WWW.ALFRED.EDU/SUMMER/CAMPS/ASTRONOMY.CFM](http://WWW.ALFRED.EDU/SUMMER/CAMPS/ASTRONOMY.CFM)

## COMMENTS FROM PAST PARTICIPANTS

*"It was a chance to meet intelligent, beautiful kids my age from around the country and build great friendships. It was a chance to work with fun professors who, after a couple of days, you consider to be friends."*

- Neyshmi M., Lancaster, PA

*"It was a great experience. I loved having the opportunity to use the observatory's telescopes."*

- Carmen E., New York City

*"I thoroughly enjoyed the program. It was definitely worth coming all the way from New Zealand to attend. The observatory facilities were excellent. This and the terrific staff and other students made the program memorable."*

- Ben A., Christchurch, New Zealand

*"I loved learning how to use an observatory as a professional astronomer would."*

- Jezra B., Manchester, NH

*"The institute helped me understand mysterious components of the Universe in an enjoyable way."*

- Betsy N., East Aurora, NY

*"The program made my love for astronomy grow beyond what I had expected."* - Katherine, D., Nashua, NH

[www.alfred.edu/summer](http://www.alfred.edu/summer)  
[summerpro@alfred.edu](mailto:summerpro@alfred.edu)

NOTE: We reserve the right to make minor changes to the content of classes without prior notice.

**CANCELLATION:** The University may cancel any course or activity at any time because of insufficient enrollment or other unforeseen circumstances. If a program is canceled or postponed, the University will refund registration fees but cannot be held responsible for other costs, charges, or expenses, including cancellation/change charges assessed by airlines or travel agencies.

### Policy Against Discrimination

Whether considering candidates for admission or financial aid, applicants for employment or the management of its policies and school-administered programs, Alfred University does not discriminate on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, or disability. Alfred University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.



## ACCEPTANCE POLICIES

The Institute Admissions Committee will evaluate all applications and determine which students will be accepted. Notification letters will be mailed within 2 weeks of the application deadline. Students requiring an earlier decision should include a note with their application indicating the date by which they need to be notified. (If a student is not accepted the \$100 deposit will be refunded.)

Accepted students will receive, along with the acceptance letter, additional materials including medical history form, permission form, emergency notification form, etc. These materials must be filled out as soon as possible and must be back in our hands by May 27. Updated immunization information (including dates) is also required at that time. **If you do not have updated immunization information on hand, you may want to acquire this from your physician now to avoid delays.**

**STUDENT CANCELLATIONS:** Refunds, less the \$100 non-refundable deposit, will be made for cancellations received by June 3. A 50% refund will be made for those received June 4-17. Sorry, no refunds can be issued after June 17.

**For further information contact:** Alfred University Office of Summer Programs, 1 Saxon Dr., Alfred, NY 14802. 607-871-2612. Fax: 607-871-2045. E-mail: [summerpro@alfred.edu](mailto:summerpro@alfred.edu).

**For specific information about class content contact Dr. David Toot, Institute Director, at 607-871-2208, [tootgd@alfred.edu](mailto:tootgd@alfred.edu).**

## ABOUT ALFRED

Alfred University is located in the safe, peaceful village of Alfred in western New York State, where summer days are warm and nights are cool and comfortable. Surrounded by rolling hills and beautiful meadows and valleys, Alfred University is the perfect place to spend an enjoyable week learning more about your favorite subject and meeting other students who share your passion for astronomy!

The campus, a 6-hour drive from New York City, a 2-hour drive from Buffalo, and 1 1/4 hours from Rochester, is easily accessible by car or bus from all directions. The nearest major airport is the Rochester International Airport (about 65 mi. north). Transportation to/from that airport can be provided for an additional charge if we receive the request by the due date indicated in the acceptance letter. After that date, students must make their own arrangements with an airport limo service.



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ALFRED UNIVERSITY SUMMER PROGRAMS



# Astronomy

Summer Institute for  
High School Students

June 26-30, 2011