

What units can I sign up for?

- ▶ The level of units correspond to your place in the program -100 for freshmen, 200 for sophomores, 300 juniors and 400 seniors
- ▶ X92 - Directed Research is specific to conducting actual research with a faculty or advisor, these are graded units that can count in your major GPA. 492 units meet your major requirement (typically senior year).
- ▶ X98 - Honors Research/Capstone, usually for research done in your senior year for the Capstone requirement. Sign up for PHYS or ASTR units your first semester of your senior year to fulfill major requirement. You must choose ONE major to do your Honors Capstone in - cannot cover both requirements.
- ▶ X99 - Independent Study is a broad umbrella for a number of projects you might be working on - talk to your advisor or faculty advisor for more information. These are pass/fail units and don't count in your GPA (unless they are for Honors)

How many units?

- ▶ 1 unit = approx. 45 hours of work per semester
- ▶ Discuss with your research advisor what is appropriate and expected of you!



FAQ

What's expected of me in a research project?

- ▶ The best thing to do is talk to your advisor you'll be working with! Discuss daily/weekly tasks, goals each semester, hours expected of you, and if you should prepare a review at the end of the semester

When should I do research?

- ▶ You can do research at any time! We typically advise freshmen to take their first two semesters to adjust to academics and focus on the GPA - but students do get involved early. Your 400-level/senior units are specifically what's required for graduation, but you can do more units than what is required (or just volunteer)



FAQ

How do I sign up for units?

- ▶ Units are not assigned automatically, so once you find a project, be sure to go through the steps to sign up! You can get a research/independent study units form in PAS 260 (for Physics) and Steward main office (for Astronomy). It requires a short description of your project along with your advisor signature. If you register later in the semester, you may also need a change of schedule form with instructor signature.
- ▶ Spring 2019 - the last day to add units with a change of schedule form is March 3rd

Can summer research count towards my major requirement?

- ▶ Typically, your 400-level required research is done in your junior/senior year on campus with a faculty member in your home department. You can earn additional units for summer, internships, or research beyond the minimum if desired. Talk with your faculty advisor about your project and what works for you!

NASA Space Grant

- ▶ Apply for Space Grant! The deadline is always at the beginning of July (July 5th this year) so it is easy to miss over the Summer. Goto the Arizona Space Grant Consortium website (<https://spacegrant.arizona.edu/students/internships>) and fill out an application. What you write in the personal statement is very important - it is a short statement (less than 1 page - usually just one or two paragraphs).
- ▶ The UA/NASA Space Grant Program will employ full-time undergraduate students for 10-20 hours per week during the academic year to work alongside upper-level graduate students and practicing scientists. We seek a diverse group of students that are dedicated, enthusiastic, and eager to learn. You do not need to be a rocket scientist to participate, but you do need to be pursuing a STEM major to apply. Applications are especially encouraged from members of underrepresented minority groups and from women.

Finding summer opportunities...

- ▶ Visit <https://w3.physics.arizona.edu/undergrad/careers-and-internships> for Physics & Astronomy career resources
- ▶ National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates - funded summer opportunities at other universities <https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/>
- ▶ Department of Energy Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship (SULI) <https://science.energy.gov/wdts/suli/> (dates open for Fall 2019 applications)
- ▶ List from University of Iowa: http://astro.physics.uiowa.edu/~clang/reu_info.html
- ▶ Pathways to Science STEM opportunities <https://www.pathwaystoscience.org/index.aspx>
- ▶ Check out job boards from Society of Physics Students, American Institute of Physics, and more professional organizations: <https://jobs.spsnational.org/>
- ▶ Look into orgs and companies you are interested in - like JPL, Fermilab, Raytheon, etc.