

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

Exploring the universe 154 (SCI 154)

Qualification	Undergraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Module credits	16.00
Programmes	BSc Chemistry BSc Extended programme - Physical Sciences BSc Geography BSc Geology BSc Mathematics BSc Meteorology BSc Physics
Prerequisites	Prohibited combination SCI 164
Contact time	4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Physics
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The content of this course is the same as SCI 164 and students are not allowed to register for both SCI 154 and SCI 164.

Students from all faculties are welcome to join us in our exploration of the universe from an earth-bound perspective. We reflect on the whole universe from the sub microscopic to the vast macroscopic and mankind's modest position therein. To what degree is our happiness determined by stars? Echo's from ancient firmaments - the astronomy of old civilisations. The universe is born with a bang. Stars, milky ways and planets are formed. Life is breathed into the landscape on earth, but is there life elsewhere? The architecture of the universe - distance measurements, structure of our solar system and systems of stars. How does it look like on neighbouring planets? Comets and meteorites. Life cycles of stars. Spectacular exploding stars! Exotica like pulsars and black holes.

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