



NAG New Astronomers Course 19 May 2018

New Astronomers Group (NAG) is a special course to be given on 19 May 2018 by Northern Sydney Astronomical Society (NSAS).

The New Astronomers Group is a great course for people who have recently purchased or plan to purchase a telescope and would like to learn how to use it. The group also caters for those of us who have had their telescopes for a while and are interested in talks or presentations on the latest updates in astronomy. Topics we cover include learning about different types of telescopes and their capabilities, astrophotography and practical areas of astronomy.

Attendees

This course is useful for all those interested in astronomy, and may include:

- Students and beginners in astronomy
- New astronomy researchers
- Academics
- New scientists and young astronomers

Pre-reading

No pre-reading is required, but it is recommended that attendees have a look at:

- Astronomy Australia Magazine
- General readings on the web in astronomy

Course topics and duration

The course will start at 10am SHARP. Registration will open 9.30am.

- Welcome and safety information (10 minutes) -- Rebecca Merrett and Franziska McCarthy
- Overview of the course (5 minutes) – Rebecca Merrett
- Astronomy Structures: Solar System, Stars, Nebulae, Supernova, Galaxies (45 minutes) – Niclas Thiele
- Modern Telescopes (types and capability) and Observation Concepts (60 minutes) – Rebecca Merrett

LUNCH from 12pm to 1pm

- Famous Astronomical Objects, Black Holes and Gravitational Waves (60 minutes) – Krishan Anand
- Astronomical Mysteries (60 minutes) – David Wallace
- Introduction to Astrophotography: Hints and Tips (60 minutes) – David Stevenson

- Feedback and Closing (15 minutes) – all instructors

4:15pm End of Classroom Sessions

Night Sky Observation from 6pm to 8pm

Note: Our observing site is in Terrey Hills. The easiest approach is via Mona Vale Road. Turn into Kamber Road, then left into Thompson Drive and go all the way to the end.

CAUTION – the turn into, and out of, Thompson Drive is tricky. Only vehicles carrying telescopes will be allowed through the gate. All other vehicles MUST park in the car park. Please ensure you arrive before it gets dark.

Course outcomes

Upon completion of this course attendees will:

- Understand basic structures of the universe
- Understand the key terms and concepts used in modern astronomy – from the solar system to black holes
- Be familiar with different types of telescopes and watching the cosmos
- Knowing key techniques in astronomy such as astrophotography and telescope mounting
- Identify the biggest stars in size, mass and luminosity
- Roadmap to advanced astronomy

NSAS team presenters

- **Rebecca Merrett – Instructor and Course Coordinator**
- **Niclas Thiele – Instructor and Course Coordinator**
- **David Stevenson – Instructor**
- **Krishan Anand – Instructor**
- **David Wallace – Instructor**

Registration

To attend this course, please fill out and submit this form by May 19th: <http://bit.ly/NAG2018Registration>

NSAS NAG website: <https://nsas.org.au/nag/>

Standard fee: 1 day \$40 (GST free), inclusive of observation at 6pm on the day of the course 19 May 2018

- NSAS members – \$30
- 3 or more students from the same one organisation – 15% discount to each attendee
- NSAS Scholarship Holders – 20%

Payment options:

Please bring cash on the day. There is an ATM nearby the venue – inside Terrey Hills Tavern.

Venue and map

The course will be held at:

German International School Sydney
33 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills, NSW 2084



Contact information

For specific queries regarding enrolment and course content, please contact:

- Krishan – M0414 725 876
- Rebecca – M0411 695 279
- David S – M0414 562 263

Other information

Tea and coffee will be provided as part of the course. For lunch, food stalls are available at the German International School to purchase food.