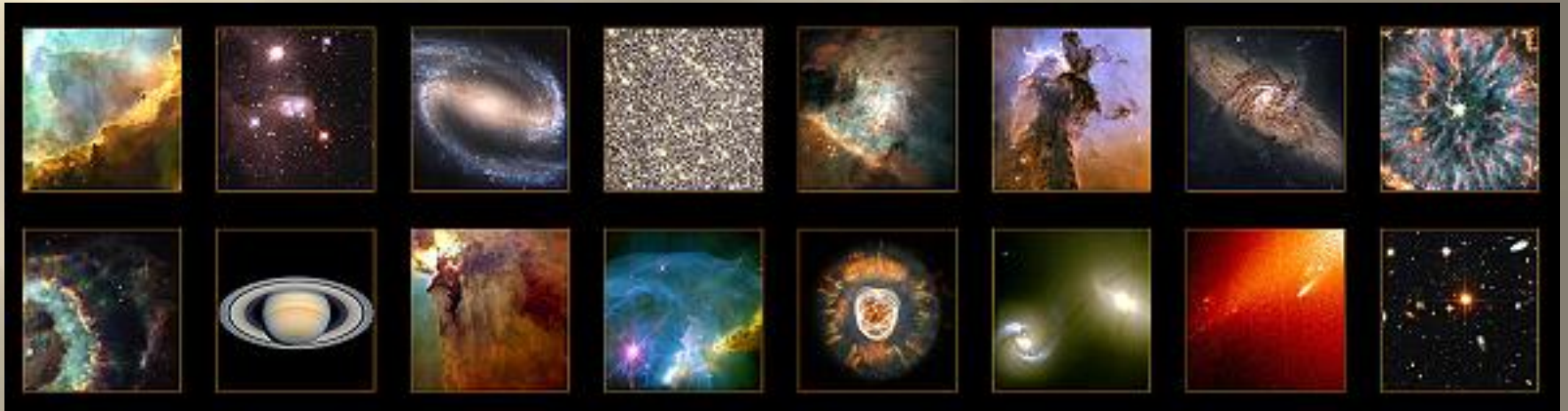


What is Astronomy?

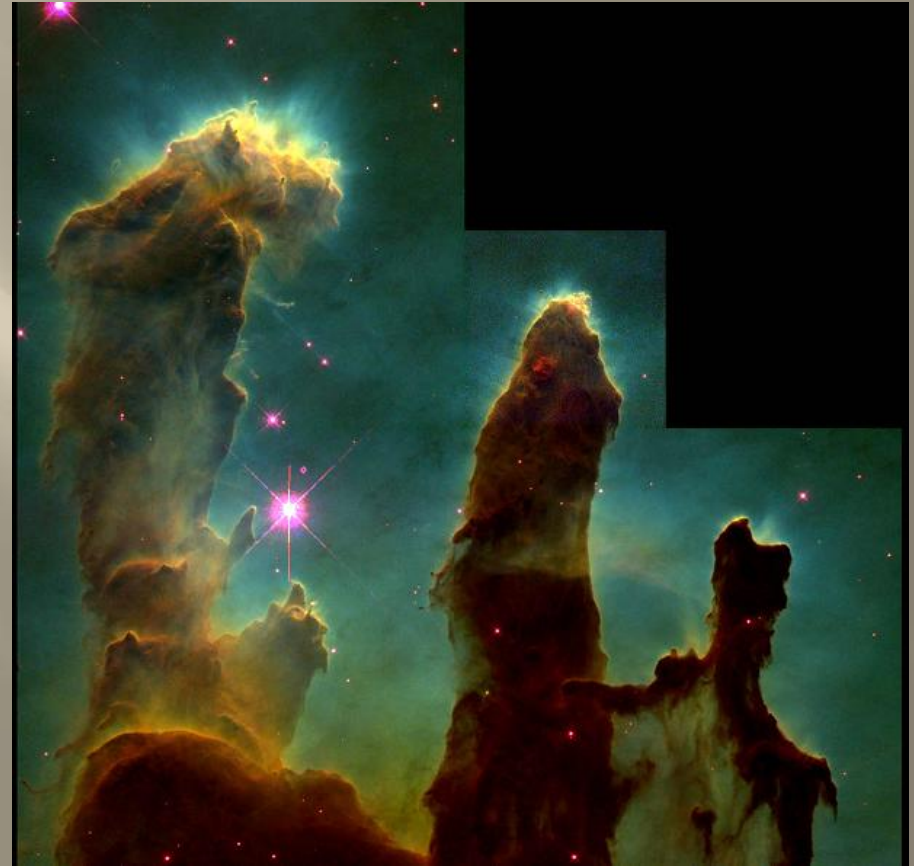
Astronomy is the study of the universe, namely the objects we observe, like the Moon, Sun, and planets in our Solar System; stars; our Milky Way Galaxy, and other galaxies; and, a host of other celestial objects and phenomena, like nebulae, and black holes!



Hubble Space Telescope Images
<http://hubblesite.org/gallery/>

...What is Astronomy?

- Astronomy is a multidisciplinary science. It is intertwined with the study of physics, chemistry, mathematics, computer science, geology and biology.
- Astronomy deals with the composition and distribution of celestial objects and phenomena.



Gas pillars in the star forming region of the Eagle Nebula
<http://hubblesite.org/gallery/>

What does an Astronomer do?

- Astronomers make observations, perform experiments, and collect data.
- Astronomers use physics and other sciences to interpret the data they collect.
- Astronomers are interested in the evolution of our universe and how it was created. They want to understand the objects in our Solar System and elsewhere in the cosmos, and how these objects and phenomena will change over time.

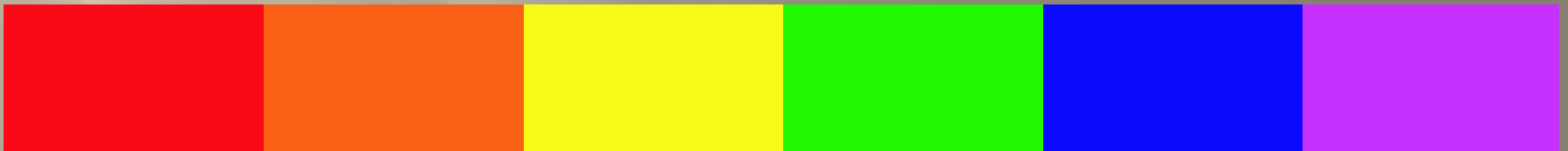


Infant stars in the Small Magellanic Cloud; <http://hubblesite.org/gallery/>

...What does an Astronomer do?

•Astronomers use many tools to observe and interpret celestial objects and phenomena. These tools include:

- Telescopes, to collect light and other forms of electromagnetic radiation, and resolve images.
- Electronic detectors like CCDs (charge-coupled devices) to catch photons and produce images.
- Spectroscopic methods to observe and analyze the emission and absorption spectra from light and other forms of electromagnetic radiation.
- Photometry to measure the changes in the brightness of stars over time.
- Computers and specialized software to perform calculations and data analysis.



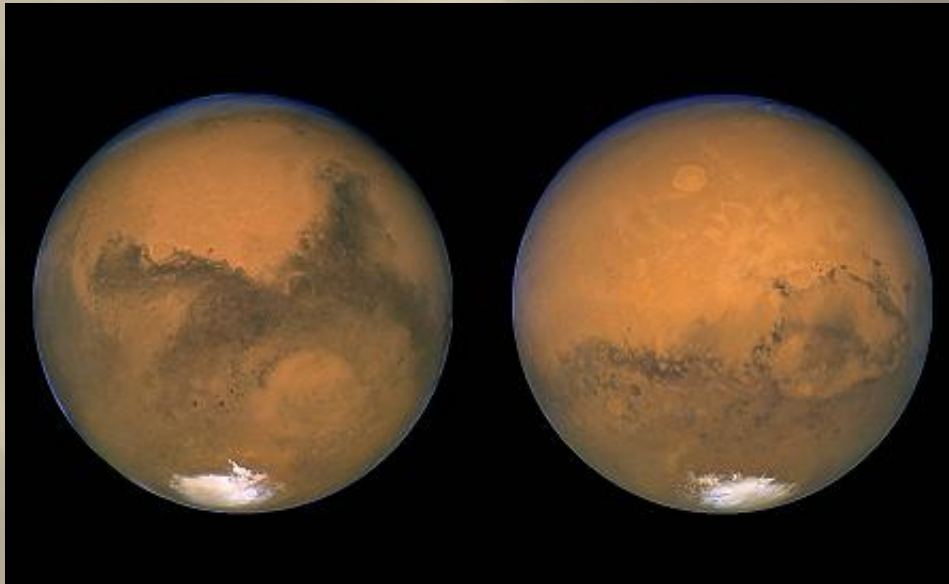
Why should I study Astronomy?

- We are all natural scientists - we are observers and collectors.
- We contemplate the mysteries and vastness of space.
- We wonder why things are the way they are and what makes them work.



...Why should I study astronomy?

If you are naturally curious and interested in areas such as planetary geology, the Solar System, space exploration, telescopes, stars, galaxies and cosmology, you should study astronomy!



The two faces of Mars
<http://hubblesite.org/gallery/>

B.A. in Astronomy, a *new* degree program...



**The Department of Physics &
Astronomy is currently offering classes
toward this program!**

A multitude of distant galaxies
<http://hubblesite.org/gallery/>

Want to learn more about the B.A. Astronomy program?



Contact

**Professor David Cinabro,
Astronomy Undergraduate Advisor,
cinabro@physics.wayne.edu**

**Globular star cluster omega centauri
<http://hubblesite.org/gallery/>**



Stephan's Quintet
Hubblesite.org/gallery/printshop/