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Course Information for:

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GI/M/PX022 ASTRONOMY 2 - TO THE STARS AND BACK

Course fee: £84

Centre: Waingels Adult Centre

Start date: 21 Jan 2016 **End date:** 3 Mar 2016 **Start time:** 19:00 **End time:** 21:00

Day(s): Th **Duration:** 6 Weeks

Description:

Explore the stars, our galaxy and the universe.
We will look at how stars are formed, their lives and how they eventually die. We will look at all the main objects in our and other galaxies and how these objects evolved from the Big Bang and how the Universe will end. We will examine what typical amateurs can see from their gardens by discussing different telescopes and what can be done with the naked eye. Identify at least 10 constellations. We will discuss all the different types of astronomical objects than can be seen with binoculars including double stars, star clusters, globular cluster, nebula and galaxies

Experience and/or Qualifications Required:

None, just a curiosity to understand what is out there in our local backyard

Course Objectives:

Know the full life cycle of stars, galaxies and the universe
Identify different types of telescopes and the best suited to your needs, if any
Know all the objects in our galaxy: what can be seen and what they look like
If sky is clear observe some of these objects

Homework:

Find the constellations discussed

Materials:

Notebook and pen

Teaching Methods:

Audio visual. Formal instruction. Practical demonstration.

Assessment Method:

Ongoing Monitoring of Learner's Work/Progress

Progression on Completion:

Where did the universe come from, what was the Big Bang, how was everything formed, how will the universe evolve and how will it end? How big is the universe and how old is it?
What is beyond the Solar system? What are stars, what are the different objects in our galaxy, how do we know what they are made of? Why are the stars different colours, why do some last a few million years yet others last billions of years like our sun? Are there any other planets out there and is there life in space?
What binoculars/telescope do I need to see some of these objects? What size and power of telescope do I need? What will I see of the different types of stars, star clusters and galaxies?
If it is clear we will identify the main constellations visible and the main objects using a small telescope (come well wrapped up)
If the universe is so big can we ever hope to travel to nearby stars? How? How can we travel through time? Really?
Is there other intelligent life in the universe? What makes you so certain?

Additional Costs:

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