Do you look up at the night sky and wonder, “are we alone?” Are there planets orbiting around stars other than the sun – exoplanets – and could they harbor life?

BGSU’s Astronomy camp gives you the experience and skills to address these questions. By day, campers will learn how astronomers hunt for exoplanets through hands-on experiments that highlight the strengths and shortcomings of current exploration methods. By night, campers will use the facilities at the BGSU Observatory to view the night sky (when clear) and watch astronomy shows and movies in the BGSU planetarium (when cloudy).

By the end of the session, campers will have a clearer view of these challenging questions, and a better understanding of how astronomers and other physical scientists perform research about the natural world.

Camp Activities:
- Perform hands-on laboratory activities to simulate and understand how astronomers determine distances to planets and stars, determine their sizes, and detect exoplanets.
- Use astronomical data to detect and characterize the properties of an exoplanet system.
- Research and present what we know – and don’t yet know – about the exoplanets orbiting around a star you select.
- View and discuss full-dome astronomy shows and movies in BGSU’s planetarium.
- Use the 20-inch and 8-inch telescopes at BGSU’s Observatory to view the night sky.
- Explore the campus of Bowling Green State University and see what life might be like as a future BGSU Student.

Camp Information:
- Open to high school students entering tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade in the fall of 2020
- The camp cost of $485 dollars covers all lodging, meal and program expenses. The cost also covers take home materials such as a camp book bag, water bottle and t-shirt along with camp counselor coverage (day/night) throughout the program.
- Applications open December 7