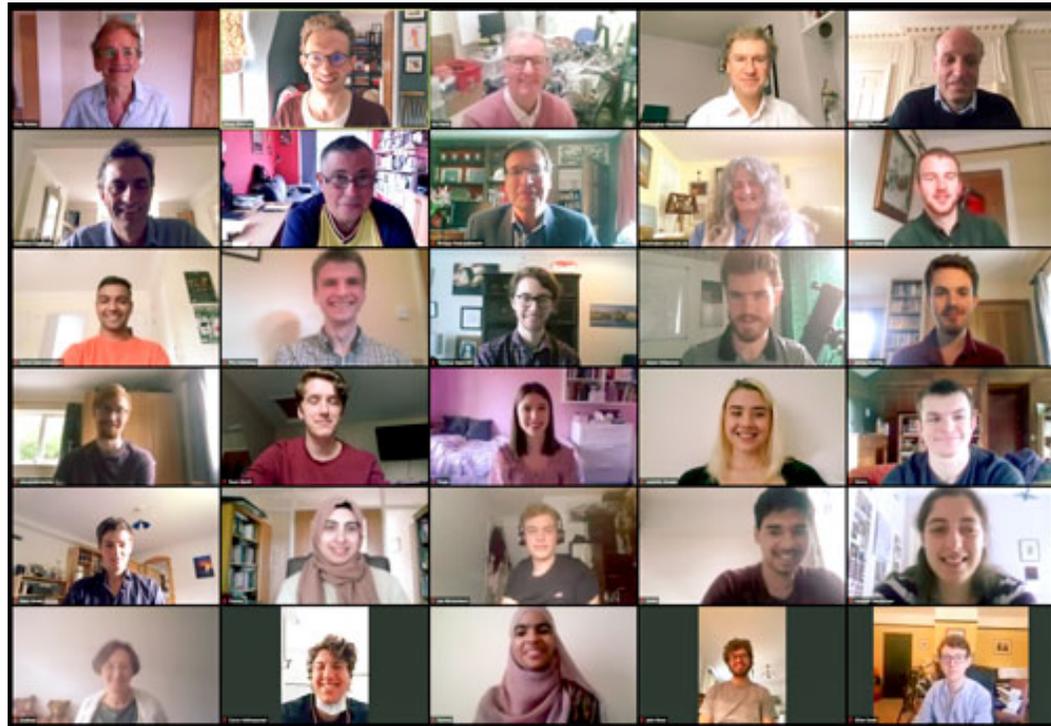


# Part II Astrophysics 2020-2021

A big welcome to the IoA and the  
25<sup>th</sup> year of Part II Astro!

Last year's cohort in  
lockdown zoomcall



You're the largest cohort ever and the first year to enter in a pandemic!

# Some differences from your former courses:

- Supervisions are organised by the department
- Though you will still have a DoS in College, your first port of call should be myself (as Course Coordinator) and Fatima Rasool as Undergraduate Teaching Administrator; can also consult Chris Tout as Chair of Teaching Committee
- Your courses may be either unique to astro. students or shared by maths. or physics students

Therefore they'll be in a variety of styles with more/less maths content/contact with observational astronomy

**30 students is small cf NST/Maths so we pride ourselves on maintaining good student staff relations and opportunities to mingle with PhD students/help with public outreach**

# We try and listen to feedback:

- Informally to lecturers/supervisors/course coordinator
- Usual formal lecture questionnaires at end of term
- Part II rep. (to be elected) attends Teaching Committee (one a term)

If things are not working out (e.g re supervisions) see me (CJC) sooner rather than later.

# A look ahead at the calendar:

The CATAM/Essay choice is not binding until the end of Lent term though a preliminary choice is made in Michaelmas

<b>OCTOBER</b>		
Tues 6 October	Full MICHAELMAS term begins	
Tues 6 October 11.30	Introductory meeting with Course Coordinator and Chairman of Teaching Committee followed by tour of IoA	Please see map Sackler Lecture Theatre
Tues 6 October 12:00	Library Tour by Mark Hurn, IoA Librarian	Live online via Zoom Sackler lecture theatre
Wed 7 October 13-13.30	Meeting with Matt Bothwell on outreach opportunities at IoA.	Sackler Lecture Theatre
Thur 8 October from 09:30	Individual Photographs (please leave enough time before lecture begins at 10:00)	Hoyle Foyer/Outside
Thur 8 October 10.00	Part II Astrophysics Lectures begin (see Lecture List) Introduction to Astrophysics, C Mackay	Sackler Lecture Theatre
During 2nd wk of MT	<i>Supervision arrangements</i> - list issued	
<b>TBC</b>	Undergraduate Journal Club and Social series	
Thursday 15 October 14:00-15:00	CATAM vacation projects examples class given by Richard McMahon	Sackler Lecture Theatre
Mon 19 October	Publication of Essay topics	Via email
Date <b>TBC</b>	Essay Topics presentations by Essay Advisors	Sackler Lecture Theatre
Friday 23 Oct by midnight <b>TBC</b>	Deadline for submitting CATAM Declaration using Raven log in at <a href="http://www.maths.cam.ac.uk/undergrad/catam/Declarations/Current/II/">http://www.maths.cam.ac.uk/undergrad/catam/Declarations/Current/II/</a>	(on line) see email from Dr J Taylor

# Lecture courses:

Michaelmas Term 2020	Lent 2021
Dr. D Skinner Principles of Quantum Mechanics, M. W. F. 10 <i>Online</i> [M]	Dr. C E Thomas Statistical Physics M. W. F. 9 MR2 [M]
Prof. C Mackay Introduction to Astrophysics Tu. W. Th 10	Prof. G Efstathiou Introduction to Cosmology Tu. W. Th. 10
Prof. M Haehnelt Stellar Dynamics and Structure of Galaxies M. W. 11 Th. 12 <i>Online</i>	Prof. C Reynolds Astrophysical Fluid Dynamics M. W. F. 11
Prof. A Challinor Relativity Tu. Th. F. 11 <i>Online</i>	Prof. Cathie Clarke and Dr. Oliver Shorttle Topics in Astrophysics M. W. F. 12
Prof. M Pettini Structure and Evolution of Stars Tu. W. F. 12	

\*

Note: Classical Dynamics for interest only in Michaelmas Term

No lectures in Easter term

All examinable and supervised (4 supervisions per term) except \* (revived 2020); note exams are not modular but you are strongly advised to prepare all 8 courses for examination

# How 2020-2021 is going to work....

- We are running a blended model: some lectures will be online only; others face to face (though may revert to online only if conditions change).
- Face to face lectures are also recorded and made available online
- Students can choose whether to attend the face to face lectures or view these online
- Supervisions are face to face where this is agreeable to all parties and will take place in the IoA
- We are trying to enable some opportunities for cohort mingling (and mingling with the lecturers/grad. students ): coffee will be served at 11 a.m. on Tues, Wed., Thurs and consumed in the IoA grounds.

Michaelmas Term

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
				10:00	Principles of Quantum Mechanics (online)				
10:00	Principles of Quantum Mechanics (online)	10:00	Introduction to Astrophysics	10:00	Introduction to Astrophysics	10:00	Introduction to Astrophysics	10:00	Principles of Quantum Mechanics (online)
11:00	Dynamics (online)	11:00	Relativity (online)	11:00	Dynamics (online)	11:00	Relativity (online)	11:00	Relativity (online)
12:00		12:00	Stars	12:00	Stars	12:00	Dynamics (online)	12:00	Stars
12:00	<i>Classical Dynamics [for interest] (Online)</i>			12:00	<i>Classical Dynamics [for interest] (Online)</i>			12:00	<i>Classical Dynamics [for interest] (Online)</i>

Online lectures (PQM, Dynamics, Relativity): will be pre-recorded and released in a batch of 3 at the beginning of each week. Their positions in the timetable are therefore nominal.

Face to face lectures (Intro., Stars)<sup>★</sup>: will occur in Sackler Lecture Theatre (here) on Tues,Wed., Th.,Fri.

Online lectures will have `office hours` to allow questions to be put to lecturers. Times and formats tbd

The `Intro.` Lectures (10-11 Tues,Wed, Thurs.) will be followed by coffee in grounds

★ recorded lectures will be uploaded after each lecture

# Important change to beginning of term plans:

- Craig Mackay's 'Introduction to Astrophysics' course will start on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct in the Sackler Lecture Theatre at 10 a.m.
- Max Pettini's first three lectures will be delivered online and he will start lecturing in the Sackler Lecture Theatre at 12 a.m. on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October

# Covid-19 etiquette while in the IoA:

- **Always** wear a mask indoors in IoA when entering/exiting/lecture theatre and taking a seat and sanitise hands on entry/exit. Face coverings are expected to be worn in all public areas of the IoA and Kavli including meeting rooms and Lecture theatres, unless someone has a medical exemption.
- With the agreement of the occupants, face coverings are optional when seated in the Sackler Lecture Theatre where the occupancy is below 16 and 2m+ social distancing is maintained at all times.
- Maintain social distancing at all times (including 2m distancing when outdoors without a mask)
- Observe signage wrt to directions of entering/exiting lecture theatre and only use designated seats
- If you have 2 lectures in the SLT in a single day, make sure that you occupy the **same seat** on each occasion
- Do not climb over other people to reach your seat: if necessary a whole row may need to rise in order to admit someone to a central seat: as this takes more time, please make sure you arrive at lectures 5-10 minutes beforehand
- **Bring lots of warm clothes** – as well as being useful when taking coffee outdoors, lecturers may leave door of SLT open for ventilation
- Observe signage/one-way systems in IoA and instructions re toilet occupancy, being aware that **there are vulnerable people working in the building**
- If you want to talk to someone in the IoA (e.g. supervisor, lecturer, coordinator) **do not enter their offices** - either email or knock on the door and arrange to meet in a meeting room
- You can use the undergraduate reference collection upstairs in the Hoyle Building but the books cannot be guaranteed to be covid free: sanitise your hands both before and after use and be vigilant about social distancing in this confined space
- Do not congregate anywhere other than in the SLT or outdoor coffee areas : in particular, do not linger in the foyer of the Hoyle Building

# Finally...

- Covid obviously adds stress to everyone this year  
– bear with us as we try and ensure that everything works smoothly ....
- To some extent our systems will need to evolve

*I am keen to hear, in confidence, about how things are working and your ideas for allaying anxieties and improving student experience*

- I hope that despite all the necessary regulations you have a really enjoyable and productive year