

# Hands-On Universe™

**Publisher:** [Hands-On Universe](#)

An educational program that enables high school students to do investigations in astronomy while applying tools and concepts from science, math, and technology. Using the Internet, Hands-On Universe™ (HOU) participants around the world request observations from a network of automated telescopes at astronomical observatories, download images, and use image processing software to visualize and analyze the data. The curriculum integrates many of the topics and skills outlined in the national goals for science and math education into open-ended astronomical investigations. Through the investigation of the solar system, galaxies, variable stars, and supernovae, students develop problem-solving techniques and critical-thinking skills. New HOU teachers attend an introductory workshop, and HOU provides ongoing staff development.

HOU is developing activities and tools for middle school students as well as continuing to implement HOU in high schools. TERC is working with the developers at the Lawrence Berkeley Lab to create curriculum, teacher enhancement materials, and activities for informal science education centers.