

Space Studies Program



The Space Studies Program (SSP), an intense eight-week course

for postgraduate students and professionals of all disciplines,

is a unique educational experience.

The curriculum covers the principal space related fields, both non-technical and technical and ranges from law and policy, management and business and humanities life sciences, engineering, physical sciences and space applications. The shared experience of an international, interactive working environment is an ideal networking forum leading to the creation of an extensive, international, multidisciplinary professional network by the program's alumni (numbering more than 5600 to date), faculty members and visiting lecturers. Through the exchange of ideas and information this network has been successful in advancing projects in such areas as disaster warning and mitigation systems, human health enhancement using space technologies, and has even significantly contributed to the creation of a national space agency.

Each year the SSP is held in a different location across the globe. Moving to a new city and country adds an exciting aspect as well as new resources and local expertise to the program.



The 36th Space Studies Program will take place in:

Houston, USA

On-site from 8 June to 3 August 2024

The International Space University (ISU) proudly announces that the 36th annual Space Studies Program (SSP) session will convene in Houston, USA from 8 June to 3 August 2024.

The program will be hosted by two partners:

- Rice University
- NASA's Johnson Space Center

"Rice hosted the ISU SSP with the support of NASA Johnson Space Center in 1997. This continuing collaboration resonates with NASA's and JSC's Strategic Objectives guiding the future of space exploration and the Artemis program and foster international cooperation" said ISU president, Dr. Pascale Ehrenfreund.

"Rice is privileged to be a partner in pursuits related to space exploration and to be part of a historic collaboration with NASA that supports some of the world's most important research and educational outreach," said Rice President Reginald DesRoches. "Hosting the International Space University on Rice's campus will be a great opportunity to amplify the work that is being done worldwide in the space exploration field and to strengthen existing partnerships and build new ones."

With Rice and JSC's combined efforts, participants of the SSP24 can expect enriching tours and hands-on engagements that tap into the depths of space exploration and its future prospects.

Rice's entwinement with space exploration is legendary. From hosting President John F. Kennedy's historic 1962 speech where he boldly stated, "We choose to go to the Moon," to being the first academic institution to lay the foundation for a dedicated Space Science department, to the current work of the Rice Space Institute, Rice's commitment to space research and exploration is unparalleled.









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Curriculum

The interdisciplinary curriculum of the SSP, with its emphasis on international cooperation, exposes participants to broad new perspectives on the world's space activities – perspectives otherwise reserved for those with many years of diverse professional experience. The program is packed with a wide variety of activities, including lectures by renowned experts, hands-on activities and projects, team work and professional visits.

The main elements of the SSP curriculum are the core lecture series, workshops, departments and team projects.

Departments include Space Engineering, Space Applications, Space Physical Science, Human Performance in Space, Space Management and Business, Space Policy, Economics and Law, and Space Humanities.

All course work at ISU is conducted in English. Each year the program evolves to better meet the needs of the participants and their employers. Students are strongly encouraged to contribute their own knowledge, experience, ideas, culture and opinions as well as their energy and enthusiasm. Reflecting on ISU's pedagogical approach and vision, interest in and respect for different cultures and backgrounds is expected from participants.

PHASE I Core Lecture Series		PHASE II Departmental Activities		PHASE III Team Project		
Mornings Core Lectures		7	Departmental	PRESENTATIONS	-	ESENTATIONS
Afternoons Department Introduction Workshops	Afternoons Department Workshops/ Activities	EXAM	Activities, Workshops, Theme Days	INDIVIDUAL PROJECT	Team Project	TEAM PROJECT PRESENTATIONS



Applications

Applications for the Space Studies Program (SSP) are processed through a rolling deadline system. Only full applications are considered, and candidates who miss a deadline will be evaluated after the following deadline.

Early applications are recommended, and partial scholarships for candidates will be granted on the basis of their academic and professional merit.

Rolling application deadlines

31 October 2023

31 January 2024

30 April 2024

