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Online Master in Astrophysics and Observational Techniques in Astronomy.

Roberto Baena-Gallé¹

¹ UNIR - Universidad Internacional de la Rioja. Avenida de la Paz, 137, 26006 Logroño, La Rioja, Spain. https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5214-7408

Abstract

The 2021/2022 academic year, the Master's Degree in Astrophysics and Observational Techniques in Astronomy, at *Universidad Internacional de la Rioja* (UNIR), was instituted. This master's degree is structured in one academic year and 60 ECTS credits (one credit corresponds to between 25 and 30 hours of student's work), 12 of them devoted to the realization of a final master's project. This official study (MECES level 3) provide access to doctoral programs, and it is designed to give a broad view of numerous astrophysical processes that occur in nature, as well as instrumentation and main data reduction techniques. Hence, it is the beginning of a professional career focused on astrophysics and astronomy, for example, as a researcher, telescope operator, science communicator, etc.

The main particularity of UNIR is its purely online methodology. In this way, from any laptop, students can access PDF materials, recorded pills and interact with professors in live classes and through an online forum. Online teaching has numerous advantages to extend knowledge by canceling geographical distances. Therefore, in its first year of teaching, the Master's Degree in Astrophysics and Observational Techniques in Astronomy at UNIR has been taught to students residing in Spain, Panama, Ecuador, Chile, etc. One of the most obvious examples that this methodology does not involve any training handicap is in the fact of having offered access to astronomical facilities remotely, so students were able to acquire their own astrophysical data from their homes by themselves, no matter in which country they lived.

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