

# Ricardo Yarza

[ryarza@ucsc.edu](mailto:ryarza@ucsc.edu) | [ryarza.github.io](https://ryarza.github.io)

## EDUCATION

---

PhD Astronomy and Astrophysics, University of California, Santa Cruz	2019–present
Advisor: Professor Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz	
BS Engineering Physics, Tecnológico de Monterrey	2019
Study abroad, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign	2017–2018
Advisor: Professor Charles Gammie	

## AWARDS

---

Chancellor's Fellowship	Fall 2025
UC Santa Cruz	
Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science and Technology	2022–2025
NASA	
Doctoral Fellowship	2020–2025
University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States	
Raynor L. Duncombe Student Research Prize	2023
Division on Dynamical Astronomy, American Astronomical Society	
Frontera Computational Science Fellowship	2022–2023
Texas Advanced Computing Center, The University of Texas at Austin	
Regents Fellowship	2019
UC Santa Cruz	

## TALKS

---

Theoretical Astrophysics Center Seminar, UC Berkeley	Dec 2025
48th Bay Area Exoplanet Meeting / 7th OWL Exoplanet Summer Program	Jul 2025
ITC Luncheon Talk, Center for Astrophysics, Harvard & Smithsonian	May 2024
Meeting of the American Physical Society	April 2024
54th meeting of the AAS Division on Dynamical Astronomy	May 2023
Texas Advanced Computing Center, The University of Texas at Austin	May 2023
Exoplanet Systems and Stellar Life Cycles, Aspen Center of Physics	Mar 2023
Friday Lunch Time Astrophysics Seminar (FLASH), UC Santa Cruz	Dec 2022
Seminar in Geophysical and Astrophysical Fluid Dynamics, UC Santa Cruz	Nov 2022
Exoplanet Summer Program, Other Worlds Laboratory	July 2022
Texas Advanced Computing Center, The University of Texas at Austin	July 2022
240th meeting of the American Astronomical Society	June 2022

## SERVICE

---

Referee for *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, *The Astrophysical Journal*

Session Chair, *Neutron Stars and Stellar Objects* April 2024  
Meeting of the American Physical Society

Executive Secretary, NASA Astrophysics Theory Program review panel Oct 2023  
Designed and gave workshops on N-body simulation, data visualization, and *Gaia* EDR3

## MENTORING

---

Mentored students:

- Richard Truong, undergraduate at San Francisco State University
- Brooke Kotten, undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Now graduate student at the University of Michigan
- Valeria Rohoza, undergraduate at Northwestern  
Now graduate student at Columbia
- Alejandra Meza, high school student at Pacific Collegiate School  
Now physics undergraduate at UC Berkeley
- Alejandra Rosselli-Calderon, MS student at Brown  
Now graduate student at UC Santa Cruz

Lamat program 2020–present  
Society of Physics Students Mentoring Program 2021  
[Young Scholars Program](#): Derek Davis, junior at Urbana High School Summer 2018

## TEACHING

---

Teaching assistant, UC Santa Cruz:

- Astronomy 118: *Physics of planetary systems* Spring 2022  
Taught one lecture; wrote and gave final exam
- Astronomy 116: *Physics of stars* Spring 2021
- Astronomy 119: *Introduction to scientific computing* Fall 2020
- Astronomy 16: *Astrobiology: life in the universe* Spring 2020
- Astronomy 6: *The space-age solar system* Winter 2020

## PRESS

---

[Discovery Alert: Earth-sized Planet Has a “Lava Hemisphere”](#) Jan 2024  
Chelsea Gohd, NASA

[The Juicy Secrets of Stars That Eat Their Planets](#) Aug 2022  
Becky Ferreira, The New York Times

[Astronomers Reveal New Details of How Stars Devour Planets](#) Aug 2022  
Nola Taylor Tillman, Scientific American