

Nicholas R. Anderson

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Education

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (2011 – Present)

- B.S. in Physics (expected completion: December 2015)
- Double minor in Astronomy and Mathematics

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte (2010 – 2011)

- Major in Architecture

Tallwood High School (Class of 2010)

- Cumulative GPA: **3.78**
- Class rank: **26/434** (top 6%)

Notable Coursework

- General Relativity
- Modern Cosmology
- Programming in C++
- Astrophysics I & II
- Observational Astrophysics
- Black Holes
- Calculus I, II, III, and IV
- Quantum Mechanics I
- Electromagnetism I & II
- Classical Mechanics I & II
- Thermal Physics
- Circuits Lab

Undergraduate Research

Dr. Duncan Farrah, Virginia Tech (Fall 2014)

- Quasar outflow
- Examined the velocity spectrum of a given quasar featuring blueshifted molecular gas relative to the quasar's expected recession velocity
- Performed Levenberg-Marquardt least squares curve fitting to data

Dr. Kathryn Harris, Virginia Tech (Spring 2015)

- Broad absorption line (BAL) quasars
- Mined the SDSS BOSS survey to examine the far infrared (FIR) properties of BAL quasars

Leadership & Activities

Astronomy Club of Virginia Tech (08/2012 – Present)

- **President** (08/2014 – Present)
 - Increased club attendance threefold under my leadership
 - Interviewed on local television for outreach: <http://ow.ly/HhQ9A>
 - Hosted three academic speakers and two field trips
 - Gave six astronomy talks myself
- **Vice President** (01/2014 – 08/2014)

Back Bay Amateur Astronomers (05/2011 – Present)

- **Webmaster** (03/2012 – 03/2014)
- Overhauled club website to its current format: www.backbayastro.org
- Earned 14 Astronomical League observing awards
- Authored 11 newsletter articles (as of 12/2014)

Scholarships

- *Virginia Beach Planetarium scholarship* (\$1000)
- *George H. Laufenburg scholarship* (\$500)
- *Nancy McCullough Memorial scholarship* (\$500)

Honors and Awards

- Astronomical League “**Master Observer**” (2013)
- **Eagle Scout**: Boy Scouts of America (2010)
- UNC Charlotte Dean's List (2010, 2011)
- Tallwood High School Principal's List (2009, 2010)
- Tallwood High School Honor Roll (2006 – 2010)
- Most Outstanding Science Student (2010)
- National Piano Guild (5-year national member)