

INTERDISCIPLINARY STEM SEMINAR SERIES

(Science Technology Engineering Mathematics)



Shedding Light on the Invisible Properties of Galaxies

Monday, September 10th, Reuter Center, Room 206
5:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Speaker:

**Dr. Britt Lundgren, Assistant Professor,
Department of Physics, UNC-Asheville**

When we observe distant galaxies, the starlight we see from billions of stars is only the tip of the iceberg. Vast invisible halos of gas, dust, and dark matter are now known to surround galaxies to great distances. Light from distant quasars can backlight the dark halos around foreground galaxies, enabling us to study their properties and better understand what role they play in how galaxies grow and evolve over time. This talk will describe the ongoing efforts by Dr. Lundgren and her research group at UNC-Asheville to connect the dark and luminous properties of galaxies, which reveal exciting details about the processes that have shaped galaxies over the past 10 billion years of cosmic history.