

# Ian R. Brunton

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## EDUCATION

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### California Institute of Technology

PhD Candidate, Planetary Science *present*  
Advisor: Konstantin Batygin, Professor of Planetary Science

### University of Chicago

MA International Relations 2019  
Advisor: John Levi Martin, Professor of Sociology

### University of Illinois & The Ohio State University

BS/BA Astronomy & International Studies (Minor: Geology & Naval Science) 2013/23  
Advisor: Brian Fields, Professor of Astronomy & Physics

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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### Teaching

Astro 137: TA, Planetary Physics Winter 2025/26  
Geo 121: TA, Advanced Field Geology (upcoming) Spring 2026

### Positions

Research/Teaching Assistant, Caltech 2023–*present*  
Researcher, Illinois Center for Advanced Studies of the Universe 2021–2023  
Researcher, Committee on International Relations, University of Chicago 2018–2019  
Writer, *Chicago Policy Review*, Harris School of Public Policy 2018–2019

### Extracurricular

Agouron Geobiology Field School (Western Montana) Aug 2023  
Zwicky Transient Facility Summer School (Minneapolis, MN) Jul 2023  
NOLS Wilderness First Responder (Boise, ID) Aug 2022  
International Volcanology Field School (Katmai, AK) Jun 2022

### Awards, Scholarships, and Honors

Ahmanson Foundation Veteran Scholar (×2) 2024/25  
BS admitted with *highest distinction* in Astronomy, Univ. of Illinois 2023  
1st place presentation for Sci. & Tech., Illinois Undergrad Research Symposium Apr 2022  
Veterans Writing Award Winner, Lighthouse Literature Festival Jun 2020  
Social Sciences Division Scholarship, Univ. of Chicago 2018–2019  
National Buckeye Scholarship, The Ohio State Univ. 2009–2013  
Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps Scholarship, U.S. Navy 2009–2013

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### NASA

Johnson Space Center 2023–*present*  
Research Scientist, Astromaterials Research & Exploration Science (ARES)

### Department of Defense

U.S. Navy 2013–2018; 2020–2021  
Officer