

Adam McKay, PhD, is an assistant professor at Appalachian State in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. His research focuses on the volatile composition of comets as studied at optical and IR wavelengths, but he is interested in any Solar System object that exhibits comet-like activity as well as planet formation.

Dr. McKay received his bachelor's degree from Williams College in Massachusetts before pursuing his PhD in astronomy from New Mexico State University. After earning his doctorate in 2013 he became a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas at Austin, and then was selected as an NPP fellow at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in 2017. In 2019 he transitioned to an assistant research professor position at American University while also keeping his affiliation with NASA Goddard, a position he held until coming to App State in 2022.

