

Night Sky Viewing at Widener University

November 2025

Sunrise & Sunset Times

	Sunrise	Sunset
Begin Month (EDT)	7:31 am	5:59 pm
End Month (EST)	7:03 am	4:37 pm

Naked-Eye Planets in the Evening & Morning Sky this Month

Mercury (*in Scorpius-Libra*): As November opens, Mercury can be spotted hovering low above the southwestern horizon shortly after sunset; it resembles a bright star to the right of true star Antares. Both will be difficult to spot at such a low altitude. Mercury sets an hour after the Sun on the 1st, but it sinks closer to the Sun as the month progresses, reaching inferior conjunction on the 20th. Mercury then swings swiftly into the dawn sky, rising 1½ hours before sunrise by month's end.

Mars (*in Libra-Scorpius-Ophiuchus*): Mars can be found to the right of Mercury low in the southwest during evening twilight in early November. Mars passes just above Mercury on the 12th, but the pair will be hard to spot so close to the horizon. Mars is nearing the end of its evening apparition, and is slowly sinking into the dusk glow, setting only a half-hour after sunset by the 30th. Mars will reach conjunction with the Sun on January 9th; it will reappear at dawn in late winter 2026.

Saturn (*in Aquarius*): Two months have elapsed since Saturn's opposition with the Sun, and the Ringed Planet remains in favorable position for viewing on November evenings. Saturn resembles a bright, cream-colored star in Aquarius near the border with Pisces. In mid-November, Saturn stands due south, above the whitish star Fomalhaut, at around 8 pm EST, and it sets in the west at 3 am. A telescope reveals not only Saturn's rings and its largest moon Titan, but also the faint, bluish-green world Neptune a few degrees to Saturn's east (left).

Jupiter (*in Gemini*): Majestic golden Jupiter, currently an inhabitant of the superb winter constellation Gemini, peeks above the northeastern horizon around 10:45 pm EDT on November 1st, and by 7:45 pm EST on the 30th. Once up, Jupiter easily outshines Gemini's Pollux and Castor, which lie above it. In mid-November, Jupiter stands at its highest altitude above the southern horizon at around 4 am. Jupiter's turn at opposition with the Sun is a couple of months away, on January 10th.

Venus (*in Virgo-Libra*): Venus continues to burn with a yellowish-white radiance low in the east at dawn, but it is getting lower with each passing day. Venus rises by 6 am EDT (5 am EST), or only 1½ hours before sunrise, on the 1st, but about 6:15 am, or only 45 minutes before sunrise, on the 30th. Venus will vanish into the morning twilight during December, then slowly reappear during evening twilight in early 2026.

Leonid Meteor Shower: Best visible on night/morning of November 16th/17th. Its source: minute particles from Comet 55P/Tempel-Tuttle, whose dust trail the Earth will be passing through at that time. The meteors appear to emanate from the constellation Leo. The waning crescent Moon that night should not interfere with the viewing.

Lunar Phases



Constellations & Bright Stars Visible Around 8 pm EST in November

Ursa Minor

Asterism Little Dipper, w/ North Star *Polaris*, due N

Summer Triangle – halfway up in W, gets lower each night.

Three bright stars: *Vega* (in Lyra, the Harp), *Altair* (in Aquila, the Eagle), & *Deneb* (in Cygnus, the Swan)

Cetus – up in SE

Bright stars *Diphda*, *Menkar*

Pegasus (Great Square) – high in S

Bright stars *Scheat*, *Markab*, *Algenib*

Andromeda – high in ESE, to left (E) of Pegasus

Bright stars *Alpheratz* (NE corner of Great Square), *Mirach*, *Almach*

Aquarius – midway up in S

Planet *Saturn*

Pisces Austrinus – due S

Bright white star *Fomalhaut*

Pisces – high in NE, below Pegasus

Aries – up in ENE, above Cetus & below Andromeda

Bright stars *Hamal*, *Sheratan*

Cassiopeia – “W” high in NNE

Bright stars *Shedar*, *Caph*, *Ruchbah*

Perseus – up in NE, to lower right of Cassiopeia

Bright stars *Mirfak* and *Algol*

Auriga – low in NNE, rising

Bright star *Capella*

Taurus – low in ENE, rising

Bright star *Aldebaran*;
Star clusters *Pleiades* & *Hyades*
Planet *Jupiter*

For more information on the night sky, visit the Widener Observatory Stargazing website at www.widener.edu/stargazing/.
A set of free sky maps can be obtained at www.skymaps.com/.