If you want to make nice astrophotos, you’ll need to look online for tutorials that tell you what to do.

Some people really like Photoshop, but it is expensive. If you want to use Photoshop, you’ll have to go to the Polk center (in the art wing of GW). They have really nice computers there with Photoshop already loaded. We might be able to get this onto the computers in Gelb as well, but I am not sure whether it would be worth it.

I have *heard* that [GIMP](http://www.gimp.org) is great too. It is supposed to do everything that photoshop does, but for free!

[DS9](http://ds9.si.edu/site/Home.html) is also a nice option. It is free, and it will accept .fits images, the standard format for astronomy images, but I don’t think it has the same image manipulation capabilities that photoshop has. I found it tricky to get it loaded onto my mac, but I do have it working now, and if I can do it, so can you!

Finally, the gold standard for creating astroimages is called [PixInsight](http://pixinsight.com). It is really expensive, but it is possible to sign up for a free trial for 45 days, so that might be a very reasonable thing to try. There should be lots of online demonstrations about how to use this software.

Okay, so once you have chosen your image processing software, you can get going on making some pretty pictures!!! Here are images of [M27](https://drive.google.com/drive/#folders/0B44FvvLeyjLKemlFRlRqRWVXMXc/0B44FvvLeyjLKekwweG10U0ZXd28/0B44FvvLeyjLKfl9yNmROWU83c1JPc3d3UGcyNEZPTDFycnZSR04yd3Q3bEpjdHV6UGZ2VkU) and [M1](https://drive.google.com/drive/#folders/0B44FvvLeyjLKemlFRlRqRWVXMXc/0B44FvvLeyjLKekwweG10U0ZXd28/0B44FvvLeyjLKfml6eHh1WVZMUzNLZUtVUUxNeERtanp1a1g4a3REMF9ESUFSVkxrUmhnY2c) for a start. Once you do something with these, you can use the telescope to choose new objects to image.

Good luck!