

Space exploration is the investigation of outer space through the use of telescopes, satellites, robotic probes, and human spaceflight. It has expanded scientific knowledge about the universe and driven technological innovation.

The modern era of space exploration began with the launch of Sputnik 1 by the Soviet Union in 1957. This was followed by milestones such as the Apollo Moon landings conducted by NASA. Human spaceflight has since focused on low Earth orbit missions, including the International Space Station.

Robotic missions have explored planets, moons, and asteroids. Rovers on Mars have studied surface geology and searched for signs of past life. Space telescopes like Hubble have provided insights into distant galaxies and cosmic phenomena.

In recent years, private companies such as SpaceX and Blue Origin have entered the space sector. Their involvement has reduced launch costs and renewed interest in lunar and Mars exploration. Space exploration continues to inspire scientific discovery and international collaboration.