

AST 103 Sect. 002, Fall 2007

Introductory Astronomy: The Solar System

Professor: Daniel Proga
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 Class time: Mondays/Wednesdays 2:30-3:45 pm, BPB 102
 Textbook: "The Cosmic Perspective" by Bennett, Donahue, Schneider and Voit
 Notes: <http://www.physics.unlv.edu/~dproga/AST103F07.html>
 Office hours: Tuesdays 2:30-3:30 pm, BPB Rm. 240

Week	Date	Subject	Reading
1	Aug. 27	Overview 1	Ch. 1
	Aug. 29	The Universe 1	Ch. 2
2	Sept. 3	Labor day recess	
	Sept. 5	The Universe 2	Ch. 2
3	Sept. 10	Astronomy as Science	Ch. 3
	Sept. 12	Astronomy as Science	Ch. 3
4	Sept. 17	Time and Navigation	Ch. S1
	Sept. 19	Motion/Energy/Gravity	Ch. 4
5	Sept. 24	Review 1	
	Sept. 26	Test 1	
6	Oct. 1	Light and Matter	Ch. 5
	Oct. 3	Telescopes	Ch. 6
7	Oct. 8	Our Planetary System	Ch. 7
	Oct. 10	Formation of planets ..	Ch. 8
8	Oct. 15	Planetary Geology 1	Ch. 9
	Oct. 17	Planetary Geology 2	Ch. 9
9	Oct. 22	Review 2	
	Oct. 24	Test 2	
10	Oct. 29	Planetary Atmospheres	Ch. 10
	Oct. 31	Planetary Atmospheres	Ch. 10
11	Nov. 5	Jovian Planets 1	Ch. 11
	Nov. 7	Jovian Planets 2	Ch. 11
12	Nov. 12	Veteran's Day	
	Nov. 14	Asteroids, Comets, etc	Ch. 12
13	Nov. 19	Other Systems	Ch. 13
	Nov. 21	Life in the Universe	Ch. 24
14	Nov. 26	Review 3	
	Nov. 28	Test 3	
15	Dec. 3	Wilder issues/Review	
	Dec. 5	Q&A	
16	Dec. 12	Final	

Exams, tests & scores:

- There will be three tests (Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 28). Each test lasts for 1 hour and there are 50 pts for each test. No make up tests will be made, but the lowest score in the three tests will be dropped. The maximum score from the three tests is 100 pts.
- The final exam will be on Wednesday, Dec. 12-th at 3:10 pm. It will last 1 and 1/2 hours. The maximum score is 75 pts.
- There will be 25 pts assigned for attendance. Attendance will be checked randomly 5 times during the semester, and each time the attendants will get 5 pts.
- The maximum score for the class will be 200 pts.
- Final letter grades will be assigned based on the total numerical score (= score from two tests+ final+ attendance points).

Other information:

- This is a survey course at the beginning level, which discusses our place in the Universe, astronomy as science, and our and other planetary systems. Topics will include history of astronomy, formation of planetary systems, properties of planets and their atmospheres, properties of other objects in the solar system A minimum of mathematics is required. Recommended for non-science majors. 3 credits.
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