

Course Description

Syllabus

- Course Description
- Instructor
- Course Outline
- Reading Assignments
- Exam Schedule
- Exams
- Grading

Class Notes

Homework Assignments

TAs

Internet Resources For This

Class

Astronomy 121

Astronomy 122

Some More Internet

Resources, Just For Fun

Contact

Syllabus

[pdf version](#) of the syllabus

Astronomy 123 introduces students to the structure and evolution of our galaxy and the Universe. Galaxies similar to the Milky Way, and those much different, are studied, leading to an understanding of the place of our galaxy within the vast Universe. The course includes an introduction to the theories of the forces of nature as they pertain to this study. The place of humankind in the Universe is examined. The search for extraterrestrial life is discussed.

<http://pages.uoregon.edu/jimbrou/astr123>

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Class Hours

Office Hours

Text

Tue 12:00 - 1:15
Thu 12:00 - 1:15
100 Willamette Hall

Tue 11-11:30 am
Thu 11-11:30 am
(or by appointment)

Astronomy Today
Chaisson and McMillan
Eighth Edition, 2014
[associated web site](#)

Course Outline for Astronomy 123 (Tentative - 3/3/17)

Date	Chapter	Topic
Apr 4 Apr 6 Apr 11 Apr 13 Apr 18 Apr 20 Apr 25	Introduction Chapter 23 " Chapter 24 " Chapters 23 & 24 Chapters 23 & 24	Introduction The Milky Way " Galaxies " Review Exam #1
Apr 27 May 2 May 4 May 9 May 11 May 16	Chapter 25 " Chapter 26 " Chapters 25 & 26 Chapters 25 & 26	Galaxies & Dark Matter " Cosmology " Review Exam #2
May 18 May 23 May 25 May 30 Jun 1 Jun 6	Chapter 27 " Chapter 28 " course projects due Chapters 27 & 28 Chapters 27 & 28	Early Universe " Life in the Universe " today by 5 pm Review Exam #3
Jun 8	Chapters 23-28	Final Review
Wednesday, Jun 14, 8:00 am	Comprehensive	FINAL EXAM

Reading Assignments

Students should read the material before the lecture in order to benefit most from the discussions in class.

Chapter	Read before class on:
Chapter 23	April 6
Chapter 24	April 13
Chapter 25	April 27
Chapter 26	May 4
Chapter 27	May 18
Chapter 28	May 25

see also the list of [Recommended Homework](#).

Quizzes and Exams

There will be frequent quizzes in class. **Clickers** will be used for the quizzes.

You will need a clicker the 2nd week of class. If you don't have one already, they are available at the Duck Store. Then, be sure to [register your clicker ID](#) on the Canvas site.

Tentative Exam Schedule (Caution: dates may change and will be set during term.)

Exam	Date	Material Covered
#1	Tuesday, April 25	chapters 23 & 24
#2	Tuesday, May 16	chapters 25 & 26
#3	Tuesday, June 6	chapters 27 & 28
Final	Wednesday, June 14, 8:00	comprehensive

[Exams - reviews, answers, and grades](#)

Astronomy Course Project:

An astronomy course project is required of each student. The project might be a written report on a topic of interest, a report of an observational exercise, or a report on the design of an astronomical instrument, to name a few possibilities. For more information refer to the [project web page](#).

Grading:

Three midterm exams will be given, with 80% course grade based on the two highest midterm scores and the final exam score. So, the breakdown for the course grade is

Two best midterm exams	50% (25% each)
Quizzes	10%
Course project	10%
Final exam	30%

There will be no make-up exams. A passing score on the final exam and on the course project are required to pass the course. One midterm exam is optional, as long as two midterm exams are passed. Class attendance is mandatory as the exams will contain material from the lectures as well as the textbook. There will also be occasional short quizzes given in class for extra credit. Students must be able to calculate numerical problems using fundamental algebra to earn an A in the course.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes any form of cheating, plagiarism, or fabrication. All work must be your own, produced exclusively for this course. For additional information on plagiarism, refer to the [UQ Library information](#). Academic dishonesty can result in receipt of a failing grade on the specific assignment or even receiving an F in the course. Additional information on academic conduct is available from the [Student Conduct Code page](#). Every violation will be dealt with seriously and noted on student disciplinary records.