

Cypress College
ASTR116 Astronomy
Spring 2005
3/29 - 5/26



Section: 23329. Lecture: T R 6-8:50 PM, SEM-308.

Professor: Mr. Phi Vu

Office: SEM-308

Office hours: By appointment or before class.

Phone: 818-364-7600 Ext.7168

Email: philaccd@yahoo.com . Always put Cypress College and course number/title in the Subject field. (Email is the best way to contact me.)

Web: <http://sem.cypresscollege.edu/~astronomy>

Required Text

Astronomy, A Beginner's Guide to the Universe, by Chaisson and McMillan, 4th edition.

Catalog Description

ASTR 116 C INTRODUCTION TO ASTRONOMY

3 Units. *Three hours lecture per week. Credit/No Credit/Letter Grade Option*

UC Credit Limitation/CSU, AA GE, CSU GE, IGETC

This course is an introduction to the ideas and concepts, and theories of astronomy. Topics include the night sky, history of astronomy, the solar system, extra solar planets, stars and the interstellar medium, galaxies and cosmology, and extraterrestrial life in the universe. Visits to local observatories and planetaria may be arranged. High School Algebra or equivalent is recommended. *Duplicate credit not granted for ASTR 116HC.*

Teaching Philosophy

Math and memorization of facts are not our goals. I emphasize the understanding of processes and the development of critical thinking skills. You should plan to spend at least three hours of study for each hour of class each week.

Supplies: scientific calculator (optional), Web access, Scantron forms No. 882-ES (100 questions in green).

Ground Rules

Attend all lectures. It will influence your grade in borderline cases. If you miss more than **3** classes, you may be dropped. If the drop date has passed you will receive an F grade. It is **your responsibility** to officially drop the course if you want to withdraw. Check the course schedule for the deadline.

Be on time. Tardiness and leaving early are rude and disruptive. If you are late, you must use the back door of the classroom and be as quiet as possible. If need

to leave early, let me know beforehand. Otherwise, I will consider leaving early as absented for the day.

Respect your teacher and classmates. Go outside to talk.

Eat and drink before, after class, or during break.

Turn off phones and pagers before you enter the classroom.

Be honest. Cheating in any form will not be tolerated. If caught, you will fail the course. Refer to the course schedule and catalog for further information on policy about academic honesty.

Grading

Homework	20%	Note: If the class normal distribution is below the grading scale, I will use curve in assigning the final grade.	A =85-100%
Three Exams	63%		B =75-84%
Class Activities	17%		C = 60-74%
Extra Credit	3%		D = 50-59%
			F = 0-49%

Homework

You will be assigned homework regularly throughout the course. The homework can be found here:

http://sem.cypresscollege.edu/%7Eastronomy/courses/astr116/homework/version_a/116hw-va.html

Notice that we will use “Version A”. To submit/do your homework

- Go to <http://cvc.blackboard.com/>
- Login: input username: fila####c, Password: student.
- Your username is the first TWO letters of your first name followed by the first TWO letters of your last name followed by the last FOUR digits of your ID number, followed by c (lower case only, no spaces). For example: Phi Vu @67891234 would have a username of: phvu1234c
- Select ASTR116 then click on the “Assignments” icon.
- Select Personal Information and input your email address.
- For Blackboard help select Help at top after you login.

Collaboration

You can do the homework either individually or work in a small group (2-3). You must turn in your homework individually. You should also actively participate instead of simply copy the group answers. This will not help you when you have to think on your own during exams.

Before you do the homework

You are required to do the following for each chapter. In your textbook:

- 1) Read the entire chapter. Pay close attention to the figures and read their captions. Review your class notes and online study guide, see below.
- 2) Read the *Chapter Review (Summary)* at least once.

Exams

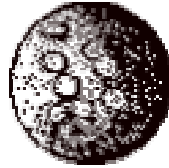
There are three Exams, and they are closed book. They're given about every three weeks. You may use a calculator although only a few mathematical concepts will be tested. Tests will include roughly 60 multiple choice questions. No make-ups are given except in cases of documented emergencies. For Exams, bring Scantron Form No 882-ES, eraser, and a No. 2 pencil.

Class Activities

For each class meeting, we will be watching a movie relating to the subject of astronomy. You are supposed to take note while watching the movie. Points are given based on your notes. Some of the titles we will be watching throughout the semester are: "Mars: Dead or Alive", "The Universe", "Standard Deviants: Astronomy 1 & 2", "The New Solar System", "The Planets", "95 Worlds and Counting", "If We Had No Moon", "Magnetic Storm", "Death of a Star", "Black Holes", "The Expanding Universe", "The Elegant Universe", "The Astronomers", etc.

Extra Credit

You can do a book report for up to a maximum of 3% point extra credit. The book you choose should be related to the subject of astronomy. The report should be about 4 pages. You will need to get my approval for the book.



Resources and Study guide

Library Reserve Desk

- Your textbook, CD software, and several other astronomy reference books are available at the reserve desk for you to use in the library.
- Sky & Telescope Magazine,

Online resources and study guide:

<http://sem.cypresscollege.edu/~astronomy/courses/astr116>

Course Schedule

WEEK	DATE	TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS/PAGES		CHAPTER TOPICS & ASSIGNMENTS
1	03/28 – 04/03	Chapter Prologue	pp. 2 - 15	Charting the Heavens
		Chapter 1	pp. 16 - 41	The Copernican Revolution
		Chapter 2	pp. 42 - 69	Light and Matter
2	04/04 – 04/10	Chapter 3	pp. 70 – 95	Telescopes
		Chapter 4	pp. 98 - 129	The Solar System
		Chapter 5	pp. 130 – 157	Earth and Its Moon
3	04/11 - 04/17	Chapter 6	pp. 158 - 187	The Terrestrial Planets
		Chapter 7	pp. 188 - 209	The Jovian Planets
				04/14 – HW Due – Chapters Prologue, 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 04/14 - Exam 1: Chapters Prologue - 5
4	04/18 - 04/24	Chapter 8	pp. 210 - 235	Moons, Rings, and Pluto
		Chapter 9	pp. 238 - 261	The Sun
5	04/25 - 05/01	Chapter 10	pp. 262 - 285	Measuring the Stars
		Chapter 11	pp. 286 – 311	The Interstellar Medium
6	05/02 - 05/08	Chapter 12	pp. 312 - 337	Stellar Evolution
		Chapter 13	pp. 338 - 361	Neutron Stars and Black Holes
				05/05 – HW Due – Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 05/05 - Exam 2: Chapters 6-11

WEEK	DATE	TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS/PAGES		CHAPTER TOPICS & ASSIGNMENTS
7	05/09 - 05/15	Chapter 14	pp. 364 - 389	The Milky Way Galaxy
		Chapter 15	pp. 390 - 419	Normal and Active Galaxies
8	05/16 - 05/22	Chapter 16	pp. 420 - 443	Hubble's Law and Dark Matter
		Chapter 17	pp. 444 - 469	Cosmology
9	05/23 - 05/29	Chapter 18	pp. 470- 487	Life in the Universe 05/26 - HW Due - Chapters 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, & 17 05/26 - Final Exam