ASTRONOMY 10

Stellar Astronomy
De Anza College
Winter 2019

Instructor: Dr. Eric Peterson
Email: PetersonEric@fhda.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. in E33A

Textbook: https://openstax.org/details/books/astronomy
             (Select your preferred option under the header: Get This Book.)

Introduction

   Astronomy 10 is an introductory course which is intended to provide a survey of our
knowledge of the stars, galaxies, and of the entire universe. We will examine
both the history of humanity's quest to understand the cosmos as well as the current
state of that understanding. The course has no prerequisites. However De Anza College
does advise the following: *English Writing 1A or English as a Second Language 5.*
The class is taught with the non-science major in mind.

Format

   Our time in class will be divided between lectures and audio/visual programs,
including videos and demonstrations with the Fujitsu star projector and the Digital Sky system. You
can expect to be tested on all of the material presented in class as well as in the textbook. The material
presented in class will not always be covered in the book, and vice versa.
   Because of the closed and darkened nature of the planetarium during audio-visual presentations,
class meetings must begin on time. If you arrive late and find the door locked because a program is in
progress, do not attempt to enter or knock.

Registration

   If you wish to add the class, you must attend the first day, and you must obtain an add code from me.
It is your responsibility to use the add code before the deadline.

Attendance

   Regular attendance is required. Attendance will be taken at every class meeting, and I will be free to
drop you from the course if you have four or more unexcused absences. However, official withdrawal
from the class is still the **student's responsibility.**

Reading Assignments

Week of	Chapter
1. January 7	1-2
2. January 14	3-4
3. January 21	5-6
4. January 28	15-16
5. February 4	17-19
6. February 11	20, 21.1-21.2, 22
7. February 18	23-24
8. February 25	25
9. March 4	26-27
10. March 11	28
11. March 18	29

Exams and Grades

Your class grade will be based on your performance on midterm exams and the final examination. There will be **no extra credit**.

There will be three midterm exams. They represent 50% of your grade. Your lowest midterm grade will be dropped. There will be **no makeup exams**. If you miss an exam, that will count as your low score. Students who miss two exams must withdraw before the final withdrawal date or receive an "F" grade for the class.

The final exam will be comprehensive and will account for 50% of your grade. The final exam must be passed in order to pass the class.

The exams will be held on the following dates:

First Midterm Exam:	Wednesday, January 23
Second Midterm Exam:	Wednesday, February 13
Third Midterm Exam:	Wednesday, March 6
Final Examination:	Wednesday, March 27, 6:15p.m.-8:15p.m.

All exams must be taken at the scheduled time on the scheduled day.

The exams will be of the multiple choice variety, and they will be graded on a curve. You will need a ParSCORE answer sheet and a #2 pencil for each exam.

Planetarium rules

The director of the planetarium hopes that your use of the facility is enjoyable and worthwhile. In order to maintain the Planetarium's valuable services to the community, he asks that you observe the following:

*   Absolutely no food, drink, or chewing gum is allowed in the planetarium.

*   Do not litter.

*   Do not leave bicycles or skateboards inside the building.

*   Protect the fabric on the seats: do not put your feet on the seats or leave hair-styling materials residue on them.

Student Learning Outcome(s):

*Appraise the benefits to society of astronomical research concerning stars and stellar systems.
*Evaluate the impact on Earth's characteristics of the evolution of stars and stellar systems.
*Evaluate astronomical news items or theories about stellar astronomy based upon the scientific method.