

ASTR 1 – Spring 2014 – MONDAY/WEDNESDAY – Asma Said

My name is Mrs. Said. This sheet describes my Astronomy 1 classes. All Astronomy classes meet in the planetarium, room D326.



Students' Learning Outcomes:

SLO#1 Synthesize a cosmic perspective—a broad understanding of the nature, scope, and evolution of the Universe, and where the Earth and Solar System fit in.

SLO#2 examine a limited number of crucial astronomical quantities, and analyze both the nature and subject of appropriate physical laws.

SLO#3 Examine the history of astronomy and the evolution of scientific ideas.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND READING

Carefully reading the textbook is the single most important thing you can do to be successful in the course. The required textbook is *ASTRO* by Michael A. Seeds and Dana E. Backman, published by Brooks/Cole Cengage Learning, copyright 2011. If you cannot immediately purchase a copy of the textbook, there will be a copy available at the reference desk of the library. The calendar on this page lists the material being covered in the course each day. It is also your reading guide. Read the material before it is covered in class.

LECTURES

Astronomy is a science that makes rich use of visuals, so the lectures are primarily PowerPoint type presentations with many images and video segments. Demonstrations with props and with lab equipment as well as full dome planetarium presentations will be used as appropriate. There will also be individual and group student activities during some class meetings.

Exams

There are three exams during the semester and a third exam, which is the final exam, on May 28th, 2012. Be sure to show up on time at the start of class to take your exam, or you will be excluded from taking that exam. Each exam, including the final exam, is worth 10 points. The exams cover:

Exam	Topics covered on exam
1	Chapters 1 through 4
2	Chapters 5 through 8
3	Chapters 9 through 11
4 (final exam)	Chapters 12 through 15

Homework

There will be few homework assignments during the whole semester. These assignments will be posted on the website: www.asmasaid.com. Due dates will be announced in the classrooms.

GRADING

In summary, your final grade in this course breaks down as follows:

Final Exam	20%
Mid Term Exams	30%
Homework	20%
Participation	5%
Final Project	25%

MONDAY		WEDNESDAY	
2/03	Introduction	2/05	Chapters 1 - 2
2/10	Chapter 2	2/12	Chapter 3
2/17	Holiday	2/19	Chapters 3 - 4
2/24	Chapter 4	2/26	Chapters 4 - 5
3/03	Chapter 5	3/05	Exam 1
3/10	Chapters 5 - 6	3/12	Chapters 6 - 7
3/17	Chapter 7	3/19	Chapters 7 - 8
3/24	Chapter 8	3/26	Chapters 8 - 9
3/31	Chapter 9	4/02	Exam 2
4/07	Chapters 9 - 10	4/09	Chapter 10
4/14	Chapters 10	4/16	Chapter 11
4/28	Chapters 11-12	4/30	Chapter 12
5/05	Chapters 12-13	5/07	Exam 3
5/12	Chapter 13	5/14	Chapters 13 - 14
5/19	Chapters 14	5/21	Chapter 14
5/26	Holiday	5/28	Chapter 15
6/2	Chapter 15	6/4	Final Exam

PASS/NO PASS

The class can be taken for either a letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) or for Pass/No Pass (P, NP). Normally you will be assigned a letter grade in the class. If you wish to take the class Pass/No Pass, please visit this site for instructions no later than September 24, 2012.: <http://www.lbcc.edu/peoplesoft/peoplesofthelp/studenthelp/enrollment/gradingbasis.cfm>

WITHDRAWAL

If you are enrolled in the class at the start of the semester but do not attend the first class meeting, you will be considered a “No Show” and I will immediately drop you from the class, in order to open up spaces for other waiting students. In all other circumstances, if you need to withdraw from this class, ***you are responsible for dropping the class through Admissions and Records or online. AGAIN, PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU NEED TO WITHDRAW FROM THIS CLASS, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DROPPING THE CLASS THROUGH ADMISSIONS AND RECORDS OR ONLINE.***

ATTENDANCE

Get to class on time and do not wander in and out of class while class is in session as it is rude to your fellow students. If on a certain day you do need to leave class before class is over, please sit at the back of the classroom and quietly exit without disturbing others. Please note that important announcements are often made at the start of class. Attendance will be taken each class period by initialing your name under the appropriate date on an attendance sheet. In order to do well in the class it is important that you attend class and pay attention, and it is your responsibility to attend class and learn, but note that ***I do not count attendance in your class grade.***

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Disruptive classroom behavior will not be tolerated, either by your instructor or by your fellow students. We expect you to act like an adult. What this means is that you should not be a distraction to your fellow students who are in class trying to learn. Before entering the classroom each day, turn off and put away all cellphones, music players and other distracting electronic devices. Do not hold a conversation with your neighbors during class that disrupts the ability of other students to learn. The students around you should always be able to clearly hear the instructor. Come to class because you want to be there to learn. If you are immature and disruptive, I, and your fellow students ask you to please not attend and disrupt the class (other than to show up on time for exams.) Do not bother wasting your time showing up to sign the roll sheet, only to leave soon after, as I do not count attendance in your final grade, nor will I drop you for poor attendance. You are responsible for dropping yourself should you wish to receive a “W” grade.

CHEATING

Any cheating will be dealt with severely. You will be removed from the class and assigned a course grade of “F” if you cheat. For the record, here are the rules that you must follow in this class during an exam:

- | You must show up on time at the start of class on an exam day, or you will miss that exam.
- | All exams are closed book and closed notes.

- | No hats with brims that block your eyes.
- | You may not talk to or communicate with anyone but the instructor during an exam.
- | The work that you do on an exam must be absolutely your own.
- | Prior to starting an exam, turn off and put away all cellphones, MP3 players, calculators, etc.

PLANETARIUM ETIQUETTE

The planetarium has carpeting and upholstered theater seating, donated by the LBCC Foundation. We would like to keep it looking new. Therefore in the planetarium there will be **NO FOOD, NO GUM** and **NO DRINKS**, all of which can damage carpeting and upholstery. *The only exception will be plain water in a plastic bottle with a cap.* During a planetarium presentation the room will need to be extremely dark. For everyone's safety and enjoyment, please follow these rules during a planetarium presentation:

- | Put all your belongings (book bag, etc.) underneath your seat and not in the aisle.
- | The room doors will be locked against entry.
- | Do not turn on any electronic device that emits light.
- | If you need to leave, it is preferable to leave before the presentation begins. If you must leave during the presentation, wait until your eyes are dark-adapted, and then carefully exit through the blackout curtains.

For more information, visit <http://planetarium.lbcc.edu/>