

Astronomy 089: Stars, Galaxies, and the Cosmos

Summer 2019 (6 Wk 1)

Lecture (in Thaw 104): Tues/Thurs 9:30AM-12:10PM

Recitation (with TA): 12:15PM-12:50PM

Instructor Office Hours: Friday 10:00AM-12:00PM

Contact Information:

Instructor: Melanie L. Good

Email: mlgood@pitt.edu

Office: 113D Old Engineering Hall

Prerequisites: Any MATH course or MATH placement score 61 or higher

Textbook (recommended): *Astronomy: The Universe At A Glance* by Chaisson and McMillan ISBN 978-0-321-79976-0

Other Materials: Any scientific or graphing calculator

Course Topics and Timeline:

- The Night Sky (Ch.1)–05/13
- Light and Telescopes (Ch.2)– 05/15
- The Sun (Ch.8)–05/15 & 05/20
- Measuring the Stars (Ch.9)–05/22
- Star Formation and Evolution (Ch.10)–06/03 & 06/05
- Stellar Explosions (Ch.11)–06/05
- Black Holes (Ch.12)–06/05
- The Milky Way Galaxy (Ch.13)–06/10
- Galaxies (Ch.14)–06/12
- Cosmology and the Universe (Ch.15)–06/17

Course Objectives:

Students Will Be Able To:

- To examine the properties and processes of stars
- To discuss the birth, evolution and death of stars
- To learn about stellar corpses such as black holes and pulsars
- To examine the properties and formation of galaxies and active galaxies
- To consider cosmology and the origin and fate of the universe

Students Should Already Be Able To:

- Use scientific notation
- Operate a scientific calculator
- Solve simple algebraic equations

Grading Scheme:

10 % for Clicker questions/In-class activities
20 % for Recitation Work
30 % for Midterm Exam
40 % for Final Exam

Important Dates:

May 15 Add/Drop Ends
May 27 Memorial Day—No Class
May 29 Midterm Exam
June 7 Withdrawal Ends
June 19 Final Exam

Honor Code:

Students are expected to uphold the University's standard of conduct relating to academic honesty.

Students assume full responsibility for the content and integrity of the academic work they submit.

Students shall be guilty of violating the honor code if they:

1. represent the work of others as their own
2. use or obtain unauthorized assistance in any academic work
3. give unauthorized assistance to other students
4. modify, without instructor approval, an examination, paper, record, or report for the purpose of obtaining additional credit
5. misrepresent the content of submitted work

Any student violating the honor code is subject to receive a failing grade for the course and will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Disability Services:

If you have a disability that requires special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications, you need to notify both the instructor and Disability Resources and Services no later than the second week of the term. You may be asked to provide documentation of your disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations.