

Astronomy 103H, Descriptive Astronomy

Instructor: Dr. K. C. Leung, 204 Ferguson kleung@unlserve.unl.edu

Textbook: Astronomy: From the Earth to the Universe by Pasachoff, 6th Edition,
Thomson (Brook/Cole) Publisher.

Lectures: We plan to cover selected Chapters in PART 1, and all of PART 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 (a total of 21 chapters) at a speed of about one to two chapters per week.

Exams: We plan to have 3 one-hour exams during the semester and 1 final (comprehensive). All 4 are counted equally. As a general practice there will be no make-up examination. In general, the questions are in the form of multiple choices and some may involve simple calculations. The first test comes about a month after the beginning of classes. The first 3 tests are administered about a month apart. The time and location of exams will be distributed in class (in about two weeks, further changes will be announced in class). Test result will be returned in class. **Thus, there will be no phone calls concerning examination time or location.**

Course grade: Based on the scores of the 4 exams (24% each) and graded on a distribution curve

Handout: Copies of transparencies used in class.

TA: A list of TA hours at the Astronomy Resources Room, Ferguson 216A, will be distributed one to two weeks.

Observation: A list of weekly Student Observatory Availability will be posted on the door of Ferguson 216A. Your TA will show you how to operate the telescope and take photo with it. You could earn a total of 4% of the semester grade by turning in two images; a planet and the moon. The first photo is due the third week of March and the second is due the third week of April.

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Chapters will be covered

	Chapter
PART 1	
The Universe	1
Light and Telescope	4
Observatories and Space Missions	5
The Sky and the Calendar	6
PART 3	
Our Star, the Sun	22
Solar Activity and the Earth	23
PART 4	
The Star and Their Spectra	24
Stellar Distances and Motions	25
Doubles Variables and Clusters	26
PART 5	
The Interstellar Medium (from PART 6)	33
The Birth, YOUTH, and Middle Age Stars	27
The Death of Stars Like the Sun	28
Supernovae	29
Pulsars and Neutron Stars	30
Stellar Black Holes	31
PART 6	
The Structure of the Milky Way	32
PART 7	
Galaxies	34
The Expanding Universe	35
Quasars	36
Cosmology	37
The Past and Future Universe	38

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