AST 301: Introduction to Astronomy
Instructor: Thomas Barnes

CLASS TOPICS FALL 2003
(these topics are preliminary and may change)

Aug. 27 Movie “Powers of Ten” shown
Aug. 29 INTRODUCTION to the course

PROLOGUE:
Sep. 3, 5, 8 The Sky and Time;
Sep. 10, 12, 15 Light and Telescopes;
Sep. 17 Observatories

THE SOLAR SYSTEM:
Sep. 17, 19, 22 Structure of the Solar System;
Sept 26 First hour exam
Sep. 24, 29 Terrestrial Planets: Earth;
Oct 1 Terrestrial Planets: Moon & Mercury;
Oct 3 Terrestrial Planets: Venus;
Oct 6 Terrestrial Planets: Mars
Oct 8, 10 Giant Planets: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune;
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THE SOLAR SYSTEM:
Oct 13 Other stuff: Asteroids, Comets, Meteors, Pluto
Oct 15, 17 Origin of the Solar System

STARS:
Oct 20, 24 Our Sun;
Oct 22 Second hour exam
Oct 27, 29 Light: Part 2 and Stellar Atmospheres
Oct 31, Nov 1 Stellar Properties
Nov 5, 7, 10 Stellar Evolution

GALAXIES:
Nov 12, 17 Our Milky Way Galaxy
Nov 14 Third hour exam
Nov 19, 21 The Galactic Zoo
Nov 24 Hubble’s Law - expansion of the Universe;
   QSOs = Quasars
Nov 26 no class
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COSMOLOGY:
Dec 1 Review class grades to date; CIS

Dec 3 The Big Bang Theory

Dec 5 Last class

Dec 11 Final Exam 9:00 - 12:00