Astronomy 103L
Observational Astronomy
Unique Numbers 44010, 44015, 44020, 44025   Classroom: RLM 13.132, 471-3306

Instructors:

Pamela L. Gay     Joseph Tufts
16.310 RLM          17.307 RLM
pamela@astro.as.utexas.edu  grin@astro.as.utexas.edu
office hrs: Tues. 3-4pm,  office hrs: Mon. 12-1pm
                      Wed. 2-3pm                      Thur. 4-5pm
sessions: Monday, Wednesday  sessions: Tuesday, Thursday

This course will be team taught by Pamela L. Gay and Joseph Tufts. Each section has a primary instructor (listed above), but at times each of us will teach all sessions. Feel free to come to either of our office hours for help, but for matters concerning your grades, class absences, and other paperwork problems, please go to your session’s instructor.

Purpose
This course is designed to introduce you to the methods of science using a variety of activities in astronomy. The course provides a guided exploration that will allow you to make your own discoveries.

Required Materials
- A Planisphere showing stars and Messier Objects (may also be called a starwheel)
- A meter stick

Optional Materials
- Basic calculator with square root abilities

Lab Equipment
Special equipment, including small telescopes, binoculars, cameras and developing equipment, mirrors and lenses will be available for students pursuing advanced topics. *You are responsible for any equipment you check out.*

Prerequisites & Corequisites
The bulletin lists AST 301 as a prerequisite or corequisite. You cannot receive credit for both AST 103L and AST 302 or 303.
Attendance Policy
Attendance is mandatory. If you realize that you will not be able to make it to class, you are expected to contact your instructor as soon as possible. This means that if you currently know you will miss the first week of April to go to your sister’s wedding, you should tell us now. If your tire goes flat on the way to class, we expect you to call us as soon as you get home. Contacting us will allow us to make arrangements for you to make up your work.

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th># of Points</th>
<th># of Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
<th>Total # of Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework/Labs</td>
<td>15 each</td>
<td>11, 1 dropped</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizes</td>
<td>20 each</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>60 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>60 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>60 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A ≥ 270 pts 179 pts ≥ D ≥ 150 pts
B ≥ 225 pts 149 pts ≥ F
C ≥ 180 pts 150 pts ≥ PASS

Homework/Labs: Every week students will be assigned either a homework assignment or at home lab activity. These assignments will be due 1 week after they are assigned unless otherwise stated. The policy for late homework is simple- assignments will be accepted until the moment we begin grading. Once we begin grading, no credit will be given for late assignments.

Quizzes: 30 minute, in-class, quizzes will be given at the end of each section of material. You will be allowed to use calculators, your notes and your books. You will not allowed use old assignments, each other’s notes, or each other’s brains. Students caught cheating will be punished as described in the student handbook.

Final Project: Students wishing to receive an A or B in this class will be asked to do a final project. Examples of final projects can be seen in Pamela’s office. Students should define their projects early in the semester, and plan on spending approximately 30 hours working on this project. The last three class periods will be used strictly for working on class projects.

Class Participation: This is the “Thou shalt work and play well with others” clause. This is a lab class, and you are expected to contribute to the group in a positive way. If you consistently contribute to class discussions, work in an effective manner, and help others, your grade will be raised. If you are consistently disruptive to discussions, your grade will be disrupted as well.

Final: There isn’t one 😊
Working With Partners
Science is a social effort. You are encouraged to work on activities with other students under the following conditions:
- You clearly indicate your partners' name(s) at the beginning of your activity.
- Each partner contributes to all sets of observations.
- You distribute the work fairly.
- Everyone writes his or her own summary.
- Everyone turns in his or her own homework or lab.

Academic Honesty
All lab work, data, graphs, answers to questions, and written summaries must be your own. You may work with others only under the conditions described above.