

ASTRONOMY 301

Introduction to Astronomy

Fall 2003 Unique No. 46515 | MWF 1:00pm | WEL 3.502

PROFESSOR

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Disclaimer

This syllabus is tentative and is intended for general information purposes only. The professor reserves the right to change or alter this syllabus at any time in order to fit the needs of the class.

TEXTBOOKS

Required: **Astronomy: From the Earth to the Universe**, by Pasachoff.

Bundled with: **Redshift College Edition CD-ROM & Workbook**

LEVEL OF COURSE

This course is a descriptive survey of the field of astronomy. I will not emphasize mathematics; however, an understanding of basic algebra will be helpful. The course will provide you with a perspective on the universe, its scale, structure, contents, and evolution. The course is primarily lecture, although I will show a few short films, and I strongly recommend a trip to the telescope at Painter Hall and the RLM--if you sign up and attend, this will be worth 5 bonus points to be added at the end of the semester.

EXAMS AND GRADES

There will be a total of three in-class exams. Your grade will be determined from the best two hour-exam scores and from a comprehensive final exam, weighted 1/3 each.. If you miss an hour-exam for any reason, that is the one that will not be counted; there will be no make-up hour-exams. There will also be four problem sets during the semester that will count 10% of the final grade. I grade on a curve intending a C+ class average.