

ASTRONOMY 309L

# Extraterrestrial Life

Spring 2008

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Dr. Neal Evans, RLM 15.218, 471-3302

Office Hours: Wed, 9:00–10:00 AM; Thursday, 3:00–3:30 PM

**REQUIRED BOOKS:**

*Extraterrestrial Life, 5th Edition*, by Evans

*Contact* by Carl Sagan

**GRADES:**

There will be 4 exams. There will be no final. Exams consist primarily of essay questions. Blue books must be used for all exams. The lowest of the four exam scores will be dropped. There will be absolutely no make-up exams, no matter how good your reason is for missing the exam. Dropping the lowest score will cover the situation where an exam is missed for a legitimate reason.

Each exam will be worth 120 points, giving a total of 360 points for a perfect score. The scores needed to obtain a given grade are listed here:

A	315 – 360
B	260 – 314
C	200 – 259
D	135 – 199

There will also be occasional pop quizzes for extra credit, and we will give extra credit to those who actively participate in class discussion.

**Cheating on exams will be dealt with very harshly; don't do it!**

**TOPICS:**

The course covers a wide range of topics, drawing on astronomy, physics, chemistry, biology, anthropology, and history. The table of contents of the text gives a good idea of the subjects covered in the class.