



Selected Studies in Astronomy Syllabus

AST 2931, Summer 2021, May17 - June 18

Course & Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Laura Nesor

Office hours: By Appointment

Contact hour: 15 hours

Credits: 1

Course Description

This course is scheduled for students who wish to further investigate curriculum presented in AST 1002 Introduction to Astronomy.

Prerequisites

To be taken in conjunction with Introduction to Astronomy (AST 1002).

Textbook Information

There are no textbooks required for this course.

Attendance Policy

The College recognizes the correlation between attendance and both student retention and achievement. Per College Policy 3.060 **Students are expected to attend all classes, actively participate and complete all assigned course work for all courses for which they are registered.**

Course Objectives

- Describe and explain how the principles of astronomy apply to physical situations and everyday applications.
- Demonstrate basic understanding and use of the various ways in which scientific information can be communicated (verbally, diagrammatically, graphically and/or mathematically).

Grading Scale

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = Below 60%

“A” grades are given for outstanding work. You are doing extremely well. The student has exceeded expectation.

“B” grades are given for above average work. You are doing very well. Improvements will be toward higher refinements of concept.

“C” grades are given for average work. You are meeting an acceptable level or expectation. Improvements will be towards acceptable levels of project requirements.

“D” grades are given for below average work. You are under-achieving in quality and/or motivation. Improvements will be towards acceptable level of project requirements.

“F” grades are given for failure. You are not reaching the expected level for college work. Improvements are to review goals, seek assistance and increase efforts.

Course Content

Student will keep a journal and write a reflection.

1. For this journal you are to record one event per week that you hear about in the

news or on TV that involves astronomy. That will give you a total of five journal entries. These things can be relevant to topics that we are discussing that week, or they can be on any other topic involving astronomy. You will put a copy of the article (newspaper, magazine, on- line journal, or copy of news segment which you can find on their website). Then you will write a brief $\frac{3}{4}$ - 1 page write up on the article. Make sure to include 1) a summary in your own words of the article, 2) the importance of the article, 3) your opinion of the subject discussed in the article (do you agree with the research that's been done, think it's a bad idea, etc. there are no right or wrong answers this is your opinion).

2. For the reflection, you will include a reflection on how studying astronomy has changed your view of the importance of astronomy (1 – 2 pages) and a reflection on what you feel you will do differently in the future (1 – 2 pages).

Academic Integrity

As members of the Seminole State College of Florida community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, such as cheating of any kind on examinations, course assignments or projects, plagiarism, misrepresentation and the unauthorized possession of examinations or other course-related materials, is prohibited. Plagiarism is unacceptable to the college community. Academic work that is submitted by students is assumed to be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. When students borrow ideas, wording or organization from another source, they are expected to acknowledge that fact in an appropriate manner. Plagiarism is the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without identifying the source and trying to pass-off such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give full credit for ideas or materials taken from another has plagiarized.

Students who share their work for the purpose of cheating on class assignments or tests are subject to the same penalties as the student who commits the act of cheating.

When cheating or plagiarism has occurred, instructors may take academic action that ranges from denial of credit for the assignment or a grade of "F" on a specific



assignment, examination or project, to the assignment of a grade of "F" for the course. Students may also be subject to further sanctions imposed by the judicial officer, such as disciplinary probation, suspension or dismissal from the College.