

ASTRONOMY 1445
Fall 2013

Instructor: Suman Satyal

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http://www.uta.edu/physics/courses/fall/2013/astro1445_004/index.html

Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:00–4:00 PM and Thursdays 3:00–4:00 PM, or by appointment

Section Information: ASTR 1445, 004-81540

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Science Hall, 121, Tuesday-Thursday 5:30 PM – 6:50 PM

Description of Course Content: The Night Sky and Motions of the Planets
 Light, Telescopes and Atomic Spectra
 Formation of the Solar System
 Earth and the Moon, and their Interaction
 Terrestrial Planets: Mercury, Venus and Mars
 Outer Planets: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune
 Dwarf Planets and other Small Bodies in the Solar System

Student Learning Outcomes: Learn the basic structure, mechanics, and evolution of the Solar System. The course material will provide a descriptive treatment of the apparent motions and properties of members of the Solar System including the planets and their moons, dwarf planets, asteroids, comets, and other small bodies.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials: Discovering the Universe, Ninth Edition
 by N.F. Comins & W.J. Kaufmann III

Examinations: Test I: September 26, 2013
 Test II: October 31, 2013
 Final Exam: December 10, 2013

Attendance: Students are highly encouraged to attend the class. Pop quizzes and extra credit problems will be assigned randomly throughout the class period that will be added into the Tests score.

Other Requirements: Laboratory

Grading:	Laboratory	25%
	Test I	25%
	Test II	25%
	Final Exam	25%
	A: (90-100), B: (80-89), C: (70-79), D: (60-69), F: (59 or less)	

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Lab Safety Training: Students registered for this course must complete all required lab safety training prior to entering the lab and undertaking any activities. Once completed, Lab Safety Training is valid for the remainder of the same academic year (i.e., through the following August) and must be completed anew in subsequent years. There are no exceptions to this University policy. Failure to complete the required training will preclude participation in any lab activities, including those for which a grade is assigned.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this

account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which are located at the back and front of the class room. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

Librarian to Contact: Mary Jo Handke is the Physics Librarian. She can be reached at (817) 272-3000, ext 4979 and by email at handke@library.uta.edu. Other physics information is found on the web site www.uta.edu/library/research/rt-phys.html

Course Schedule:

Month	Day	Activity	Course Content
August	22	Introduction	
	27	Chapter 1	Discovering the Night Sky
	29		
September	3	Planetarium Show	
	5		
		Chapter 2	Gravitation and Motion of the Planets
	10		
	12		
	17	Chapter 3	Light and Telescopes
	19		
	24	Review Test 1	
	26	Test 1	
October	1		
	3	Chapter 4	Atomic Physics and Spectra
	8	Chapter 5	Formation of the Solar System
	10	Planetarium Show	

	15	Chapter 5	Other Planetary system
	17		
	22	Chapter 6	The Earth and the Moon
	24		
	29	Review Test 2	
	31	Test 2	
November	5	Chapter 7	
	7		The Other Terrestrial Planets
	12	Planetarium Show	
	14	Chapter 8	The Outer Planets
	19		
	21	Chapter 9	Vegabonds of the Solar System
	26		
	28	Thanks giving Holiday	
December	3	Finals Review	
	5	Finals Review	
	10	Final Exam	

“As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. –Suman Satyal.”