

Physics 106

Astronomy

Fall, 2012

Prerequisites:	MAT130, or a working knowledge of algebra
Instructor:	Charles Benesh
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Web:	http://www.wesleyancollege.edu/~cbenesh
Office Hours:	M 1:30-2:30 Tu&Th 9:45-11 W 10-11 F 4:30-5:30
Grading:	40% - 4 Exams 20% - Final Exam 20% - Weekly Homework and Quizzes 20% - Weekly Laboratory
Text:	<i>Astronomy Today</i> , 7th Edition by Chaisson and McMillan with <i>MasteringAstronomy</i> (www.masteringastronomy.com)

- **Lecture Attendance:** Regular attendance in class is both expected and recommended. Generally, quizzes are only given when attendance falls below 80%. Therefore, the day you don't show up is more likely to have a quiz.....
- **Quizzes:** I reserve the right to give unannounced in class quizzes which will count towards the homework portion of your grade. No makeup quizzes will be given.
- **Homework:** Each week there will be a homework assignment. Assignments are posted on the course web page and on the *MasteringAstronomy* website. You will be sent a reminder via email on Friday(usually) when a

new assignment is posted. In most instances, the assignment will be due on Tuesday(11 days later.)

On a few occasions there may be additional online activities assigned.

- **Laboratory:**There will be a total of eleven labs for this course. With two exceptions, each week's lab will be conducted in two parts, during the second "half" of class. In order to complete the lab,*you must be present on Tuesday when the lab begins. Students will not be allowed to begin the lab on Thursday. There will be no opportunity to makeup missed labs.* Lab reports are due on Thursday one week after completion of the lab.

On one occasion we will go out to the roof of Munroe and observe the sky using the College's small telescopes. You may be required to stay later than usual to complete this activity.

You are also be required to take a "field trip" up the street to the Museum of Arts and Sciences to see the planetarium and telescopes they have there.

Class Schedule - Physics 106

Aug	23	The Birth of Astronomy - NO LAB READ: Chapter 1
	28	Getting Around the Sky - Celestial Coordinates
	30	Phases and Eclipses, Parallax Lab 1: Planetarium Visit READ: Chapter 1
Sep	4	Geocentrism vs. Helio-Centrism Lab 2a: Celestial Sphere
	6	Galileo, Kepler, and Newton Lab 2b: Celestial Sphere READ: Chapter 2
Sep	11	Newton II Lab 3a: Parallax
	13	Light Lab 3b: Parallax READ: Chapter 3
Sep	18	Interference and Diffraction Lab 4a: Celestial Scavenger Hunt(Backup Date)
	20	Exam I - Chapters 1-3 Lab 4b: Celestial Scavenger Hunt(Backup Date) READ: Chapter 4
Sep	25	Black-Body Radiation Lab 5a: Newton's Laws
	27	Telescopes Lab 5b: Newton's Laws READ: Chapter 5
Oct	2	Atomic Spectroscopy I Lab 6a: Light and Waves
	4	Atomic Spectroscopy II Lab 6b: Light and Waves READ: Chapters 4& 5

Oct	9	Fall Break NO LAB
	11	Exam II Lab 4b: Celestial Scavenger Hunt(Backup Date) READ: Chapters 4 & 5
Oct	16	The Solar System I - The Regular Cast Lab 7a: Optics
Oct	18/17	The Solar System II - Guest Stars Lab 7b: Optics Read Chapter 5 & 6
Oct	23	Earth I Lab 8a: Online Lab Activity
	25	TBA Lab 8a: Online Lab Activity READ: Chapter 7
Oct	30	Earth II Lab 9a: Sizing Things Up
Nov	1	Mercury Lab 9b: Sizing Things Up READ: Chapter 8
Nov	6	Venus Lab 10a: Rotation of Mercury
	8	Mars & Extra-Terrestrial Life Lab 10b: Rotation of Mercury READ: Chapters 9 & 10
Nov	13	Jupiter - The Big One Lab 4a: Celestial Scavenger Hunt(Backup Date)
	15	Exam III Lab 4b: Celestial Scavenger Hunt(Backup Date) READ: Chapters 11& 12
Nov	20	Saturn

	22	NO LAB NO CLASS NO LAB
Nov	27	Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto
	29	Lab 11a: Moons of Jupiter The Sun's Surface Lab 11b : Moons of Jupiter READ: Chapter 13 & 16
Dec	4	The Sun's Interior - NO LAB READ: Chapter 16
Dec	11	Final Exam - 5:30 PM