Instructor: Dr. Kenneth Carrell
Email: kenneth.carrell@angelo.edu
Phone: (325) 942-2136
Office: VIN 119
Office Hours: MW 10am-noon (in office) & 2-3pm (in Collaborate), R 2-3pm (in office)

Communication
Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, Skype, etc.

Course Description
Normally attributed to Enrico Fermi, the question of ‘where is everyone?’ is more relevant today than when it was first asked about 70 years ago. In this course, we will learn about Fermi’s Paradox and then explore some of its potential solutions. A connection between these and campus life at ASU will be made with an emphasis on how students can solve their own Fermi Paradox.

Course Delivery
To maintain academic quality while accommodating social distancing needs this semester, this course will use a split delivery model that combines face-to-face teaching with remote instruction.

How Does It Work?
This class will meet face-to-face most days. There will be some days where class will be held virtually via Collaborate in Blackboard.

When you are not in the physical class, you will be responsible for completing assigned coursework in Blackboard. This work can be completed any time before the posted deadline.

Please refer to this Health and Safety web page for updated information about campus guidelines as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Assessing Outcomes & Grade Determination

Method of Assessing Outcomes
Student learning outcomes will be assessed with:

- Participation, attendance, & daily grades (25%)
- A major research project (25%)
- Information literacy assignments in Blackboard (20%)
- A course blog (20%)
- Minor writing assignments (10%)

Late Work
Unexcused late work or missed tests will not be accepted. If your assignments are not submitted by the posted deadline you will receive a zero for that assignment. You must contact your professor before the assignment is due if you believe it will be late or as soon as possible after the due date in the case of an unexpected emergency.

Planetarium Class Etiquette
- No food, drinks, or tobacco products are allowed in the planetarium or the outer lobby area.
- Please do not leave trash in the planetarium or lobby.
- Please do not disturb fellow students during class time.
- Please do not put your feet up on the chair in front of you.
- Silence cell phones and other electronic devices.
- No texting/messaging during class.
- Please let me know if you will be using any electronic device during class.
- Face masks MUST be worn inside the planetarium.

Grade Determination
Your final grade will be determined by your scores on all tests and exams.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent of Total Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation, attendance, &amp; daily grades</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Research Project</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information literacy assignments</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Blog</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor writing assignments</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Angelo State University employs a letter grade system. Grades in this course are determined on a percentage scale: A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = 59% and below
General Policies Related to This Course
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:
- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.
Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to
the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance
of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Title IX at Angelo State University
The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation,
gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-
based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence
(domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible
Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified
of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title
IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Boone, J.D.
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University
Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students
As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory
Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the
COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus
from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas.
Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a
mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your
daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe
distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately
wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be
responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas
Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

Modifications to the Syllabus
This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification. In
particular, the COVID-19 pandemic may require significant changes in course delivery and content on
potentially short notice.
# Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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</table>
| **August 17, 19** | Introduction, Syllabus, Course Information Blackboard, Navigate, Ramport What is Fermi’s Paradox? | Campus Locations  
Start Blog  
Blackboard Tools Assignments  
**Log into Blackboard** |
| **August 24, 26** | Where is everyone? (Events on campus, campus layout, etc) Exoplanets       | Begin Research Project  
Writing Assignment #1  
**Log into Blackboard** |
| **August 31, September 2** | Where can I go to find help? (University Resources, Tutor Center, Math Lab, Counseling Services, etc) Interstellar Travel | Information Literacy  
**DUE: Campus Locations**  
**DUE: Writing Assignment #1** |
| **September 9 (Labor Day Sep 7)** | MEET IN COLLABORATE  
Discuss research projects | Attend Class via Collaborate |
| **September 14, 16** | Mundane Solutions to the Paradox | **Writing Assignment #2**  
Research Project Outline |
| **September 21, 23** | Crazy Solutions to the Paradox | GPA Calculations  
**DUE: Information Literacy** |
| **September 28, 30** | What does the future hold? (Academic Advising, degree plans, etc) | **DUE: GPA Calculations**  
**DUE: Blog**  
**DUE: RESEARCH PROJECT** |