Course Information

Course Description
A study of the current knowledge and techniques of astronomy as applied to our solar system. Information obtained from recent planetary probes and lunar exploration will be emphasized.

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
None

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
The expected learning outcomes for the course, listed below, will be assessed through performance on homework and embedded questions within quizzes.
• Recognize science as an iterative process and summarize how astronomical data is acquired and understood.
• Develop scientific reasoning and critical thinking skills that can be applied to life beyond the classroom.
• Identify and describe the features and physical principles relevant to solar astronomy.

Required Texts and Materials
"Astronomy" by OpenStax
Scientific calculator
Grading

Evaluation and Grades
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz Average</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework Average</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading System
Course grades will depend on completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

This course uses the following grading scale:

- **A**: 90% – 100%
- **B**: 80% – 89%
- **C**: 70% – 79%
- **D**: 60% – 69
- **F**: 0% – 59%

Assignment and Activity Descriptions
Homework problems are intended to help the student prepare for tests. Homework assignments should be turned in through Blackboard. Absolutely no late work is accepted. Use of electronic devices (telephones, computers, music players, etc.) during lectures or tests is not allowed. All electronic devices should be turned off during class. Quizzes may not be made up unless in the event of a university-excused absence, in which case it is the student’s responsibility to schedule a time to make-up the missed quiz before the quiz is given to the rest of the class. Any form of cheating (which includes plagiarism) will result in a grade of F for the course.

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 to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.³

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.⁴ The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dr. 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 Procedures⁵ 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**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: Incident Reporting Form
Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: michelle.miller@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University
Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit the Title IX website.

Information About COVID-19
Please refer to ASU’s COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Updates web page for current information about campus guidelines and safety standards as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Modifications to the Syllabus
This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification on potentially short notice based on developing circumstances.

Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 August – 26 August</td>
<td>Science and the Universe: A Brief Tour (Ch. 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 August – 2 September</td>
<td>Observing the Sky: The Birth of Astronomy (Ch. 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 September – 9 September</td>
<td>Orbits and Gravity (Ch. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 September – 16 September</td>
<td>Earth, Moon, and Sky (Ch. 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 September</td>
<td>Quiz #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 September – 28 September</td>
<td>Radiation &amp; Spectra/Astronomical Instruments (Ch. 5 &amp; 6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 September</td>
<td>Cosmic Samples &amp; the Origin of the Solar System (Ch. 14)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 October – 7 October</td>
<td>Other Worlds: An Introduction to the Solar System (Ch. 7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 October – 14 October</td>
<td>Earth as a Planet (Ch. 8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 October – 21 October</td>
<td>Cratered Worlds (Ch. 9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 October</td>
<td>Quiz #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 October – 2 November</td>
<td>Earthlike Planets: Venus and Mars (Ch. 10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 November – 9 November</td>
<td>The Giant Planets (Ch. 11)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 November – 16 November</td>
<td>Rings, Moons, and Pluto (Ch. 12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 November – 23 November</td>
<td>Comets and Asteroids: Debris of the Solar System (Ch. 13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November – 2 December</td>
<td>The Sun (Ch. 15 &amp; 16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 December</td>
<td>Quiz #3 (08:00 – 10:00)</td>
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</tbody>
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