

ASTR1110H - INTRODUCTION TO ASTRONOMY

The Solar System

Fall 2009

Professor: Loris Magnani Office: Physics 238 Phone: 542-2876
E-Mail: loris@physast.uga.edu
Web Page: www.physast.uga.edu/~loris/ast1110h/prob.html
Class Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 AM – 10:45 PM in Physics 221
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 AM – noon & 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM (or by appointment)

Textbooks:

The Copernican Revolution (CR) – Thomas S. Kuhn
The Trial of Galileo (TG) – Frederick Purnell, Jr., Michael S. Pettersen, Mark C. Carnes
Destiny or Chance (DC) – Stuart Ross Taylor

Tentative Class Schedule & Readings & Homework Assignments:

August 18 – Introduction
August 20 – Film, *The Planets*, Vol. 1 – Different Worlds; DC – p. 1-49
August 25 – The Celestial Sphere; CR – Ch. 1
August 27 – Timekeeping; CR – Ch. 2; **Homework 1 due**
September 1 – Ancient Greek Astronomy; CR – Ch. 3
September 3 – The Middle Ages and Copernicus; CR – Ch. 4
September 8 – Kepler and His Laws I; CR – CR - Ch. 5
September 10 – Kepler and His Laws II; CR – p. 185 – 219; **Homework 2 due**
September 15 – Introduction to the Game (TG 1); TG – p. 3-48
September 17 – Discussion of Galileo's Early Works I (TG 2)
September 22 – Discussion of Galileo's Early Works II (TG 3); **Essay 1 due**
September 24 – College of Rome Lectures (TG 4)
September 29 – Holy Office Debates (TG 5)
October 1 – Prince Cesi's Party (TG 6)
October 6 – Holy Office Debates I (TG 7)
October 8 – Election and Installation of New Pope (TG 8); **Essay 2 due**
October 13 – Holy Office Debates II (TG 9)
October 15 – Holy Office Debates III (TG 10)

October 20 – Post mortems (TG 11); CR – p. 219-252

October 22 – Newton and Astronomy in the 18th and 19th Centuries; CR – p.252-278;

Essay 3 due

October 27 – Einstein and Relativity

October 29 – **EXAM**

November 3 – Some Physics

November 5 – The Formation of the Solar System; DC – p.49-64

November 10 – The Terrestrial Planets – Interiors; DC – p. 118-145

November 12 – The Terrestrial Planets – Surfaces and Pictures; DC – p. 147-167

November 17 – The Terrestrial Planets – Atmospheres; DC – p. 169-204; **Homework 3 due**

November 19 – Debris I – The Asteroid Belt; DC – p. 111-118

November 23 & 25 – Thanksgiving Break

December 1 – The Jovian Planets; DC – p. 65-89

December 3 – Debris II – The Kuiper Belt; DC – p. 91 – 118, p. 205-215; **Homework 4 due**

December 15 – **FINAL EXAM**