

Using *Mastering Astronomy*

KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS WITH YOU!

Registration Procedure

1. Point your web browser to <http://www.KeplerEducation.com/MAtutorial> for a complete walk-through of registering and getting started with *Mastering Astronomy*.
2. You will need to purchase an access code from the site.
3. Be sure to use your first name and last initial for both your Login Name and your Student ID.
4. The Course ID is AST11F06a.

Working Problems and Tutorials (Summary)

1. Read (and/or print) the Learning Goal and background material (*very* important!)
2. *Carefully* read the text of the problem – these problems can be tricky!
3. Read each part of the problem, and choose your answer. Press “submit” to see if you are correct.
 - a. You can keep trying to answer a question as many times as you like, but you will lose points for each wrong attempt – be sure of your answer before pressing “submit”!
 - b. If you are unsure of the answer, you can press the “hints” button to get hints. These hints do not count against you, but you will get bonus points for every hint you do *not* open – it’s possible to get greater than 100% on each assignment!
4. Once you have answered all parts of the problem, press “Submit Problem” to send your results to me.
5. You will be presented with a survey, which is completely optional. You do not have to fill it out, though *Mastering Astronomy* will use your input to rank the difficulty and usefulness of the problem for future astronomy students taking this class (I choose problems based on the calculated difficulty, so I can use *Mastering Astronomy*’s reports to refine which problems to use for coming semesters – and later on in this semester – based on your feedback.)
6. Press “Submit Survey” to go on to the next problem (even if you left the survey blank).
7. Sometimes you will be expected to rank certain quantities from greatest to least or vice versa. Remember that some quantities may be *equal* to each other – place them on *top* of each other in the ranking task window or you will not be able to solve the problem!
8. I *strongly* encourage you to work in groups on your homework! Remember, though, that *Mastering Astronomy* often uses random numbers in its assignments, so your problem may not exactly match that of your classmate.
9. Keep in mind that you will learn *nothing* by random guessing – you’ll be completely wasting your time. If after two hours you can’t figure out the assignment, email me for help!

