

ASTRONOMY 113 Generic

Contact Information:

Instructor: Sally Watt, M.S.	Office Hours:
Office: PS113 (GCC Main) D106 (GCC North)	GCC North: M 12 PM – 1 PM W 9 AM – 10 AM F 8:30 AM – 9 AM F 2:30 PM – 3 PM (by appointment)
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Course Description:

This course will provide you with an introduction to astronomy and science procedures even if you are not a science major.

Prerequisites/ Co-requisites:

The only course co-requisite for this class is Astronomy I (AST 111).

Laboratory Manual:

Astronomy I Laboratory Manual, by Winters and Watt, September 2008.

Note: you will receive the lab manual the second week of class.

You must bring your *lab manual*, a *scientific calculator* and a *pencil* to lab every week!

Lab Schedule:

Date	Lab
Aug. 28	Planispheres
Sept. 4	Night Time Sky
Sept. 11	Position of Sun and Planets at Birth
Sept. 18	Project Planning
Sept. 25	Kepler's Laws
Oct. 2	Spectroscopy
Oct. 9	Optics
Oct. 16	CCD Image Processing
Oct. 23	Lunar Topography
Oct. 30	Jupiter
Nov. 6	Discovery of Neptune
Nov. 13	Discovery of an Asteroid
Nov. 20	Parallax, Distance and Near Misses
Nov. 27	Make-up Labs
Dec. 4	The Sun and the Solar Spectrum
Dec. 11	Project Presentations

Attendance:

It is your responsibility to be in class on time. If you aren't here in the first 15 minutes of class you have missed the instructions for the lab and cannot stay to complete it. Other than GCC approved activities, there will be no excused absences. I will not stay past the end of lab!

Grades:

Each lab will be worth 10 points for completing the lab in class. You must have the lab instructor's signature at the end of the class period to get credit for doing the lab. The following week will begin with a 10 point quiz on the previous lab within the first 5 minutes. If you are not

here or are late or missed the previous lab, the quiz cannot be made up! Thus, each lab is worth a total of 20 points. The research project will be worth 100 points. The total points will be 370 points. The final grades will depend on your total points in the class. 90% of the points will result in an A for the course, 80% a B, 70% a C, etc.

Withdrawal Policy:

A student may withdraw from the course by submitting a withdrawal form to the Admissions Office. All withdrawals must be done before the last day for student withdrawal, **Nov. 30, 2009**.

Disabilities:

If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please notify me and the Disability Services and Resources Office on the GCC campus located in room TDS 100 (Phone: 623.845.3080)

Disciplinary Action:

All labs must only be completed in class! Any labs that are completed or partially completed prior to coming to class will be confiscated and you will not be given any points for the work on the first violation. Any subsequent violation will be met with disciplinary action. I consider this cheating!

Disciplinary actions may be imposed on student for misconduct or violation of law and/or college rules and policies. Students may be subject to the following: temporary exclusion, disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from class. The policies followed in disciplinary actions are outlined in the official Student Handbook. The relevant section can be viewed online at http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/catalog/student_rights.html. You are responsible for understanding that information!

Course Objectives:

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Apply the scientific method and other critical thinking models to astronomical phenomena for hypotheses development, experimental design, data acquisition and data analysis.
2. Demonstrate ability to follow directions in completing laboratory exercises.
3. Demonstrate ability to properly and safely use laboratory tools, e.g. Calculators, computers, rulers, telescopes, photometers, maps, etc. for data acquisition, data analysis or simulation.
4. Demonstrate ability to work effectively in collaborative groups.
5. Present accurate and meaningful project reports analyzing experiments, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Research project:

You will be required to complete a research project of some sort demonstrating your understanding of the scientific method. Presentations will be **Dec 7 - 11, 2009**. The presentation need only be 5 – 10 minutes long but must include all steps of the scientific method. We will spend the lab period **Sept. 14th - 18th** to plan your projects. You **MUST** have your project approved by the next class meeting!

Syllabus Acknowledgement Sheet:

You are responsible for understanding the material presented in this syllabus. You will be notified of any changes in the course requirements or policies. In order to remain in the class, you must sign and date the syllabus acknowledgement sheet on the following page by **the second class meeting**.