

PHYSICS 109: Astronomy & Cosmology

<http://www.physics.rutgers.edu/~pcote/109/>

CLASS HOURS and LOCATION:

The class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:10 to 7:30pm (period 7) in the Physics Lecture Hall, Busch Campus



INSTRUCTOR: **Prof. Patrick Côté**

Physics and Astronomy Building (Serin Labs),
Room 309, Busch Campus

e-mail: pcote@physics.rutgers.edu

Office hours: Mondays period 2 (9:50 - 11:10 am)

GRADER: Name and coordinates will be posted on
the course webpage.



TEXTBOOK:

Astronomy Today (4th Edition),
by Chaisson & McMillan
ISBN 0130915424



HOMEWORK

Due most Tuesdays at 11:59pm, starting on 09/16, ending on 12/09.

Homework is handled online by the WebAssign system:

<http://www.webassign.net>

See the class website for your webassign name and password

NO LATE HOMEWORK CAN BE ACCEPTED!

Checklist for the next few days

- Buy the book, if you haven't already.
- Buy the WebAssign access code: if you don't, you will not be able to hand in your assignments.
- Log onto WebAssign and make sure your account is active. If it isn't, send me email IMMEDIATELY
- Change your WebAssign password to something only you can guess

EXAMS:

First Midterm exam: October 2

Second Midterm Exam: November 6

Final Exam: December 16

See the website for exams times and locations.

GOLDEN RULE: plan on spending 2-3 hours of study outside of class for every hour in class.

CLASS SYLLABUS (Check the class webpage regularly for changes and updates; * = Homework due)

1	Sep 2	(Tue)	INTRODUCTION; COURSE OVERVIEW AND GOALS.	
2	Sep 4	(Thr)	OUR PLACE IN TIME AND SPACE; THE CELESTIAL SPHERE.	Chapter 1
3	Sep 9	(Tue)	SEASONS, MOTIONS, CYCLES, PHASES, ECLIPSES	Chapter 1
4	Sep 11	(Thr)	HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	Chapter 2
5	Sep 16*	(Tue)	LAWS OF MOTION AND GRAVITY	Chapter 2
6	Sep 18	(Thr)	ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM	Chapter 3
7	Sep 23*	(Tue)	RADIATION LAWS	Chapters 3, 4
8	Sep 25	(Thr)	SPECTROSCOPY	Chapter 4
9	Sep 30*	(Tue)	TELESCOPES	Chapter 5
	Oct 2	(Thr)	First Mid-term Exam	
10	Oct 7*	(Tue)	TELESCOPES	Chapter 5
11	Oct 9	(Thr)	SOLAR SYSTEM OVERVIEW	Chaps 6, 15, 16
12	Oct 14*	(Tue)	EARTH	Chapter 7
13	Oct 16	(Thr)	EARTH	Chapter 7
14	Oct 21*	(Tue)	GLOBAL WARMING; GREENHOUSE EFFECT; MOON & MERCURY.	Chapter 8 □
15	Oct 22	(Thr)	MOON & MERCURY □	Chapter 8
	Oct 28*	(Tue)	<i>No Lecture Scheduled</i>	
16	Oct 30	(Thr)	VENUS	Chapter 9
17	Nov 4*	(Tue)	VENUS	Chapter 9
	Nov 6	(Thr)	Second Mid-term Exam	
18	Nov 11*	(Tue)	MARS	Chapter 10
19	Nov 13	(Thr)	MARS	Chapter 10
20	Nov 18*	(Tue)	JUPITER	Chapter 11
21	Nov 20	(Thr)	SATURN	Chapter 12
22	Nov 25*	(Tue)	THE OUTER PLANETS	Chapter 13
	Nov 27	(Thr)	<i>No Lecture: Thanksgiving Recess</i>	
23	Dec 2	(Tue)	SOLAR SYSTEM DEBRIS	Chapter 14
24	Dec 4	(Thr)	MASS EXTINCTIONS	Chapter 14
25	Dec 9*	(Tue)	FORMATION OF PLANETARY SYSTEMS	Chapter 15 □
	Dec 16	(Tue)	Final Exam	