

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS and ASTRONOMY  
COURSE OUTLINE

1. **ASPH 621, High Energy Astrophysics**

Lecture Section **L01**: MWF, 14:00-14:50, SS 117

**Instructor**, D. Leahy Office SB529 Tel. No., 403-220-7192 e-mail address leahy@ucalgary.ca Office Hours: MW 16:00-16:50

Blackboard course name: Asph621

Departmental Office SB605, telephone no. 220-5385

2. **PREREQUISITES:** .

3. **GRADING:** The University policy on grading and related matters is described sections F.1 and F.2 of the online University Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Assignments	35%
Research project	15%
In-class tests (2)	15%
Final Examination	35% (To be scheduled by the Registrar)]

**There will be a final examination scheduled by the Registrar's Office. A passing grade on the final examination is required in order to pass the course.**

In Asph 621: Percentage grades will be given for all elements of term work and examinations. A weighted course percentage will be calculated for each student after the final exam is written. A table of conversion from final course percentage to final course letter grade will be given on the Asph 621 Blackboard site later in the term.

4. **Missed Components of Term Work.** The regulations of the Faculty of Science pertaining to this matter are found in the Faculty of Science area of the Calendar in section 3.6: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/sc-3-6.html>. It is the student's responsibility to familiarize himself/herself with these regulations. See also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-3.html>.
5. **TEXTBOOK:** "*Introduction to High Energy Astrophysics*", Rosswog & Bruggen, Cambridge University Press
6. **EXAMINATION POLICY:** Students are encouraged to read the Calendar, Section G, on Examinations: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g.html>.

Department Approval \_\_\_\_\_



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Jun 2/13

7. **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:**

- (a) **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT** (cheating, plagiarism, or any other form) is a very serious offence that will be dealt with rigorously in all cases. A single offence may lead to disciplinary probation or suspension or expulsion. The Faculty of Science follows a zero tolerance policy regarding dishonesty. Please read the sections of the University Calendar under K. Student Misconduct (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>) to inform yourself of definitions, processes and penalties
- (b) **ASSEMBLY POINTS in case of emergency during class time.** Be sure to **FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF** with the information at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- (c) **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION POLICY.** Students with documentable disabilities are referred to the following links:  
Calendar entry on students with disabilities: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-1.html>  
Disability Resource Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/>
- (d) **SAFEWALK:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>). Call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.
- (e) **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY:** This course will be conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page.** For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

- (f) **STUDENT UNION INFORMATION:** VP Academic **Phone:** 220-3911 **Email:** [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca).  
SU Faculty Rep. **Phone:** 220-3913 **Email:** [sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca) Website <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>.  
Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>
- (i) **INTERNET and ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE Information.** You can assume that in all classes that you attend, **your cell phone should be turned off.** Also, communication with other individuals, via laptop computers, Blackberries or other devices connectable to the Internet is not allowed in class time unless specifically permitted by the instructor. If you violate this policy you may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct.

## DETAILED COURSE SYLLABUS

Topics to be covered:

- Special relativity
- Gas processes
- Equations of fluid dynamics
- Shock waves
- Radiation processes
- Radiative transfer
- Supernovae
- Neutron stars, pulsars and magnetars
- Stellar structure equations
- Equation of state of neutron stars
- Realistic neutron stars
- Compact binary systems
- Dynamics of binaries
- X-ray binaries
- Gamma-ray bursts
- Observed properties
- The fireball model
- The central engine
- Active galactic nuclei