



## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. **Course:** ASTR 209, Introduction to Astronomy II - The Cosmos - Summer 2021

Lecture 01: MWF 12:00 - 13:50 - Online

Instructor	Email	Phone	Office	Hours
Jason Nishiyama	jason.nishiyama1@ucalgary.ca	TBA	TBA	MWF 14:00-15:00

In this course we will be studying deep space, that is the astrophysics of stars, nebulae, and galaxies. We will look at what objects exist in the universe outside the solar system, how those things form, and how we know what we know. Since much of what we know exists in the universe is invisible to the unaided human eye we will look at how physics allows us to learn about things we cannot see or touch. The course will challenge you with the diversity of the universe and the level of abstract thinking required for studying the vastness of the universe.

#### Online Delivery Details:

This course is being offered online in real-time via scheduled meeting times, you are required to be online at the same time.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

This course has a registrar scheduled, synchronous final exam. The writing time is 2 hours + 50% buffer time.

This course will be delivered primarily by synchronous virtual classes in Zoom. This means that we will generally meet at the appointed class times of MWF at 12:00 to 13:50. There may be times when classes are delivered asynchronously, you will be notified in advance in the announcements on D2L when these will happen.

We will attempt to record the synchronous classes so that students who are unable to attend may view them at a later time. Please note that participants in a recorded class will have their voice and text chat also recorded by Zoom.

#### Course Site:

D2L: ASTR 209 L01-(Summer 2021)-Introduction to Astronomy II - The Cosmos

**Note:** Students must use their U of C account for all course correspondence.

### 2. **Requisites:**

See section [3.5.C](#) in the Faculty of Science section of the online Calendar.

Math is the language in which we formulate the laws of physics on which our understanding of the cosmos is built. Math is used in this course to illustrate how we find out details about the universe. The exams will contain questions that test knowledge and insight. The exams will also include some math questions.

### 3. **Grading:**

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the online University Calendar.

In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Component(s)	Weighting %	Date
Bi-Weekly Mastering Astronomy Assignments (3)	25	Alternating with Lab assignments
Bi-Weekly Lab Assignments (3)	25	Alternating with MA assignments
Midterm Exam (on D2L)	25	21 July 2021
Final Exam (on D2L)	25	Scheduled by Registrar

Each piece of work (reports, assignments, quizzes, midterm exam(s) or final examination) submitted by the student will be assigned a grade. The student's grade for each component listed above will be combined with the indicated weights to produce an overall percentage for the course, which will be used to determine the course letter grade.

The conversion between a percentage grade and letter grade is as follows.

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D
<b>Minimum % Required</b>	93 %	85 %	80 %	75%	70%	65 %	60 %	55%	50%	45 %	40 %

The percentage grades required to earn a particular letter grade for the course are strict minimum thresholds applied to the weighted mean percentage course grade. There is no rounding. For example, a mean percentage grade of 79.99% for the course translates into a letter grade B+.

Assignments are due at 23:59 on the due date (see later in this course outline). After this due-time, the maximum attainable grade decreases gradually to zero over a 24 hour period.

Each student shall register only one single account in Mastering Astronomy. Duplicate accounts associated with the same student ID will be removed, and this may result in loss of credit for one or more course components.

Any missed component of course work receives a grade of zero.

This course has a registrar scheduled final exam.

The mid term exam will be 110 minutes, excluding additional time to compensate for writing online (55 minutes). It will be available at 12:00 noon on 21 July 2021 and will be available for 15 minutes.

The final exam will be 3 hours, including additional time to compensate for writing online. The final exam will be first available at the start time scheduled by the Registrar, and will be available for only 15 minutes after that.

NOTE: Additional time will be granted to SAS students that require it, and other accommodation to students will be done on a case-by-case basis.

This course will have a final exam that will be scheduled by the Registrar. [The Final Examination Schedule](#) will be published by the Registrar's Office approximately one month after the start of the term. The final exam for this course will be designed to be completed within 2 hours.

The final exam will be administered using an on-line platform. Per section [G.5](#) of the online Academic Calendar, timed final exams administered using an on-line platform, such as D2L, will be available on the platform. Due to the scheduling of the final exams, the additional time will be added to **the end** of the registrar scheduled **synchronous** exam to support students. This way, your exam schedule accurately reflects the **start time** of the exam for any **synchronous** exams. E.g. If a **synchronous** exam is designed for 2 hours and the final exam is scheduled from 9-11am in your student centre, the additional time will be added to the **end** time of the **synchronous** exam. This means that if the exam has a 1 hour buffer time, a synchronous exam would start at 9 am and finish at 12pm.

#### 4. Missed Components Of Term Work:

The university has suspended the requirement for students to provide evidence for absences. Please do not attend medical clinics for medical notes or Commissioners for Oaths for statutory declarations.

In the event that a student legitimately fails to submit any online assessment on time (e.g. due to illness etc...), please contact the course coordinator, or the course instructor if this course does not have a coordinator to arrange for a re-adjustment of a submission date. Absences not reported within 48 hours will not be accommodated. If an excused absence is approved, one possible arrangement is that the percentage weight of the legitimately missed assignment could also be pro-rated among the components of the course. This option is at the discretion of the coordinator and may not be a viable option based on the design of this course.

Nominally missed components of term work will receive a grade of zero, this includes late assignments. If illness or other emergency prevents the completion of work before a deadline it is imperative that you contact the instructor as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements, if possible, can be discussed. The earlier you can contact the instructor the easier it will be to make alternate arrangements.

#### 5. Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:

There are no scheduled out of class activities for this course.

## 6. **Course Materials:**

Required Textbook(s):

Bennett, J., Donahue, M., Schneider, N., Voit, M, *The Cosmic Perspective (9th Edition) (Electronic on line version)*: Pearson.

The electronic textbook also provides access to Mastering Astronomy which will contain most of our assignments. Some assignment/labs will be on D2L.

Lecture notes will be posted on D2L prior to the lecture. You are encouraged to download these for the lecture to aid in your note taking. Exams can contain information from the textbook, the assignments/labs, and the lectures. It is therefore advisable not to rely on only the textbook or the lecture notes for study purposes.

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection.

For more information please refer to the UofC [ELearning](#) online website.

## 7. **Examination Policy:**

Exams will be held on D2L. Due to the on-line nature of the course the instructor will generate the exams as take home exams. This means the questions will mostly test insight and application of the material. The exams will be a mix of multiple choice, short and long answer questions. Some questions on the exams will require the use of math.

**The use of a scientific calculator is allowed and highly recommended for exams!**

**All exams are cumulative.**

As an on-line take home exam accessing reference material is assumed so few questions test base knowledge. The test is time-limited so an understanding of the material without the use of reference materials will ensure a higher level of success.

Despite being a take home exam, you are **NOT** permitted to collaborate with classmates on test questions. Direct copying of material from either classmates or other sources will be considered plagiarism and may lead to disciplinary action. All answers on assessment material (exams, assignments, etc.) must be your own work. For further information on misconduct you are directed to read section 12 paragraph d of this course outline.

Students should also read the Calendar, [Section G](#), on Examinations.

## 8. **Approved Mandatory And Optional Course Supplemental Fees:**

There are no mandatory or optional course supplemental fees for this course.

## 9. **Writing Across The Curriculum Statement:**

For all components of the course, in any written work, the quality of the student's writing (language, spelling, grammar, presentation etc.) can be a factor in the evaluation of the work. See also Section [E.2](#) of the University Calendar.

## 10. **Human Studies Statement:**

Students will not participate as subjects or researchers in human studies.

See also [Section E.5](#) of the University Calendar.

## 11. **Reappraisal Of Grades:**

A student wishing a reappraisal, should first attempt to review the graded work with the Course coordinator/instructor or department offering the course. Students with sufficient academic grounds may request a reappraisal. Non-academic grounds are not relevant for grade reappraisals. Students should be aware that the

grade being reappraised may be raised, lowered or remain the same. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

- a. **Term Work:** The student should present their rationale as effectively and as fully as possible to the Course coordinator/instructor within **ten business days** of either being notified about the mark, or of the item's return to the class. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome, the student shall submit the Reappraisal of Graded Term work form to the department in which the course is offered within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor. The Department will arrange for a reappraisal of the work within the next ten business days. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected. See sections [I.1](#) and [I.2](#) of the University Calendar
- b. **Final Exam:** The student shall submit the request to Enrolment Services. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

## 12. Other Important Information For Students:

- a. **Mental Health** The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, [Mental Health Services Website](#)) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website ([Mental Health](#)).
- b. **SU Wellness Services:** For more information, see [www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre](http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre) or call [403-210-9355](tel:403-210-9355).
- c. **Sexual Violence:** The Sexual Violence Support Advocate, Carla Bertsch, can provide confidential support and information regarding sexual violence to all members of the university community. Carla can be reached by email ([syva@ucalgary.ca](mailto:syva@ucalgary.ca)) or phone at [403-220-2208](tel:403-220-2208). The complete University of Calgary policy on sexual violence can be viewed at (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>)
- d. **Misconduct:** Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional [Code of Conduct](#) and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. Some examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to: posting course material to online platforms or file sharing without the course instructor's consent; submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work; submitting or presenting work in one course which has also been submitted in another course without the instructor's permission; borrowing experimental values from others without the instructor's approval; falsification/fabrication of experimental values in a report. Please read the following to inform yourself more on academic integrity:

[Student Handbook on Academic Integrity](#)  
Student Academic Misconduct [Policy](#) and [Procedure](#)  
[Research Integrity Policy](#)

Additional information is available on the [Student Success Centre Academic Integrity page](#)

- e. **Academic Accommodation Policy:** Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the procedure for accommodations for students with disabilities available at [procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf](#).

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Associate Head of the Department of Physics & Astronomy, Dr. David Feder by email [phas.ahugrd@ucalgary.ca](mailto:phas.ahugrd@ucalgary.ca) or phone 403-220-8127. Religious accommodation requests relating to class, test or exam scheduling or absences must be submitted no later than **14 days** prior to the date in question. See [Section E.4](#) of the University Calendar.

- f. **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). 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 [Legal Services](#) website.
- g. **Student Union Information:** [VP Academic](#), Phone: [403-220-3911](tel:403-220-3911) Email: [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca). SU Faculty Rep., Phone: [403-220-3913](tel:403-220-3913) Email: [sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca). [Student Ombudsman](#), Email:

[ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca).

- h. **Surveys:** At the University of Calgary, feedback through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction ([USRI](#)) survey and the Faculty of Science Teaching Feedback form provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference - please participate in these surveys.
- i. **Copyright of Course Materials:** All course materials (including those posted on the course D2L site, a course website, or used in any teaching activity such as (but not limited to) examinations, quizzes, assignments, laboratory manuals, lecture slides or lecture materials and other course notes) are protected by law. These materials are for the sole use of students registered in this course and must not be redistributed. Sharing these materials with anyone else would be a breach of the terms and conditions governing student access to D2L, as well as a violation of the copyright in these materials, and may be pursued as a case of student academic or [non-academic misconduct](#), in addition to any other remedies available at law.

### **If you need assistance.**

ASTR 209 covers a lot of material in a very short time. Lecture notes are posted prior to the lecture so that you can use them for note taking. More detailed course information will be posted on D2L. Due to the nature of the course material it may be difficult to answer questions over email. Email with the instructor is most effectively used to deal with course organizational issues, or to book an appointment if you cannot make office hours. Office hours have been set to be the hour after class which is the ideal time to answer questions related to course outcomes. Separate Zoom meets will be set up for this time.

### **Homework assignments**

Assignments/assignment labs will primarily be web based and in Mastering Astronomy. Access is provided with the electronic textbook and information on how to log in will be posted on D2L. Lab activities will be handed in on D2L.

### **Assignment due dates - All assignments due by 23:59 on the date listed:**

Assignment 1: Sunday, July 4

Lab Assignment 2: Sunday, July 11

Assignment 3: Sunday, July 18

Lab Assignment 4: Sunday, July 25

Lab Assignment 5: Sunday August 1

Assignment 6: Sunday August 8

### **Syllabus**

Observing the Cosmos. Structure of the Sun, and other stars. Properties of stars. Parallax, luminosity, Stephan-Boltzmann law, Hertzsprung-Russell diagram. Stellar evolution and nucleosynthesis. End stages of stellar evolution. Black holes and gravitational waves. Structure of the Milky Way. Interstellar matter. Galaxies and clusters of galaxies. Cosmology. Galaxy evolution.

A detailed list of learner objectives will be posted on D2L.

### **Course Outcomes:**

- Students will know how observations of radiation across the electromagnetic spectrum contribute to our knowledge of the cosmos.
- Students will learn to apply physical principles such as black body radiation, spectral analysis, the Doppler effect, parallax, and the force of gravity to objects in the cosmos.
- Students will demonstrate critical judgment about applicable media reports, scientific methods and theories.
- Students will be able to identify the building blocks of the cosmos and their interrelations.

Electronically Approved - Jun 21 2021 09:24

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**Department Approval**