

Spring 2020

PHYS 202-102: Introductory Astronomy and Cosmology

George Georgiou

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Introductory Astronomy and Cosmology
Phys 202–102
Fall 2020
Thursdays, 6-8:50 p.m. Kupf. 211

Instructor

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OFFICE HOURS: R 4-5:30 or after class or by appointment (send email)

Textbook

Primary on which class is based:

“Astronomy” by A.Fraknoi, D.Morrison, S.Wolf ...

Downloadable Open Stax text: <https://openstax.org/details/books/astronomy>

Optional paper textbook: (if do not like reading e-books)

Jeffrey Bennett, Megan Donahue, Nicholas Schneider, and Mark Voit. *The Cosmic Perspective Fundamentals*, 2nd Ed. Pearson Education, Inc., United States of America, 2015. – but ANY EDITION will work for reading material

Additional Reading (optional but may be interesting):

Neil deGrasse Tyson, J. Richard Gott and Michael A. Strauss, *Welcome to the Universe*, an Astrophysical Tour, Princeton University Press (2016)

Grade

Your final grade will be based upon class participation (10%), four examinations (15% each), and one Final Examination (30%). The examinations will be administered on the following dates.

First Examination	Wednesday, February 5, 2020	(15%)
Second Examination	Wednesday, February 26, 2020	(15%)
Third Examination	Wednesday, April 1, 2020	(15%)
Fourth Examination	Wednesday, April 29, 2020	(15%)
Final Examination	Finals Week (probably 5/13)	(30%)

There are no make-up examinations without a valid reason. The following table will determine your final grade.

80% to 100%	A
75% to 79%	B+
70% to 74%	B
65% to 69%	C+
50% to 64%	C
40% to 49%	D
0% to 39%	F

Introductory Astronomy and Cosmology (Phys 202) and Introductory Astronomy and Cosmology Laboratory (Phys 202A) are two separate courses. You can be registered for either one of these courses without being registered for the other course.

Academic Integrity

Any student who is disruptive in the classroom or cheats during an examination, will be in violation of the Academic Honor Code and will be reported to the Dean of Student Services.

Syllabus (Chapters for reading refer to OpenStax Download text)

Wednesday	1/22	Observing the Sky (Chapters One & Two) Orbits and Gravity (Chapter Three)
Wednesday	1/29	Earth, Moon, and Sky (Chapter Four) Radiation and Spectra (Chapter Five)
Wednesday	2/5	Astronomical Instruments (Chapter Six) First Examination
Wednesday	2/12	Introduction to the Solar System (Chapter Seven) Earth and Other Cratered Worlds (Chs. 8 and 9)
Wednesday	2/19	Venus and Mars (Chapter Ten) Giant Planets, Rings, Moons (Chapters 11 and 12)
Wednesday	2/26	Comets, Asteroids, Samples (Chapters 13 and 14) Second Examination
Wednesday	3/4	The Sun (Chapters 15 and 16) Starlight and Stars (Chapters 17 and 18)
Wednesday	3/11	Distances. Gas & Dust in Space (Ch. 19 and 20) Star & Planet Formation (Chapter 21)
Wednesday	3/18	NO CLASS – Spring Break
Wednesday	3/25	Stars' Adolescence to Old Age (Chapter 22) Death of Stars (Chapter 23)
Wednesday	4/1	Review of Chapters 15-23 Third Examination
Wednesday	4/8	Black Holes, Curved Spacetime (Chapter 24) The Milky Way Galaxy (Chapter Twenty-five)
Wednesday	4/15	Galaxies (Chapter Twenty-six) QSOs, Black holes, Galaxy Evolution (Chs. 27 & 28)
Wednesday	4/22	The Big Bang (Chapter Twenty-nine) Review of Chapters 24-29
Wednesday	4/29	Fourth Examination Review of Chapters 1-29 – LAST DAY OF CLASS
Wed/Thur	6-7 May	Reading Days Final Exam during finals week -- probably Wednesday May 13

Spring 2020 Academic Calendar

January	20	Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January	21	Tuesday	First Day of Classes
January	31	Friday	Last Day for 100% Refund, Full or Partial Withdrawal
February	3	Monday	Last Day for 90% Refund, Full or Partial Withdrawal – No Refund for Partial Withdrawal after this date.
February	17	Monday	Last Day for 50% Refund, Full Withdrawal
March	9	Monday	Last Day for 25% Refund, Full Withdrawal
March	15-22	Sun.-Sun.	Spring Recess - No Classes Scheduled - University Open
April	6	Monday	Last Day to Withdraw
April	10	Friday	Good Friday - No Classes Scheduled - University Closed
May	5	Tuesday	Friday Classes Meet, Last Day of Classes
May	6-7	Wed-Thurs	Reading Days
May	8-14	Fri-Thurs	Final Exams
May	16	Saturday	Final Grades Due