

**Introductory Astronomy Laboratory
Spring 2009 VAN 666**

TA: Leo Rodriguez
OFFICE: 215 Van Allen
OFFICE HOUR: 1-3PM Friday, or by appointment
E-MAIL: leo-rodriguez@uiowa.edu
LAB MANUAL: Labs will be posted at: <http://astro.physics.uiowa.edu/~kaaret/s09/lab.html>
ICON Grades and other labmaterial will be posted on your respective sections

LAB SCHEDULE

Week	Lab
1	No Lab
2	Scales of the Universe
3	Measuring the Sky
4	Using star charts
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	Spring Break
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	Project presentations

GRADING

Each lab is graded out of 100 points and due at the **end** of the period. This includes showing up on time with a printed copy of the relevant lab. The point break down for each week varies, and includes these categories most weeks: Pre-Lab (tardiness, lab sheets,...), Data/Graphs, Units/Sig Figs, Analysis Questions, and sometimes Clean-up.

Final Research Project

The final research project includes the analysis of original images obtained using RIGEL based in Arizona. Your findings are to be presented in front of the class during the final lab meeting. Ideas for projects are listed in the lab manual but you are encouraged to create your own project based on information and techniques you learn in lab and lecture. You must, however, clear any project with me before proceeding. This includes those discussed in the manual.

Class/Lab

Students with a final mark lower than 50% or who fail the lab section will fail the course overall. The final mark will be calculated as follows: For students registered for both the course and lab, the lab will count for 25% and the class for 75% of your final grade.

Clear Sky Patrol

The Clear Sky observational project is evening instruction in constellations, currently visible planets and various deep sky objects. For some professors it will be mandatory, for others it may be optional;

be sure to check the lecture syllabus to make sure. It meets on the roof of Van Allen and consists of two parts: naked eye and telescope viewing. Visit <http://astro.physics.uiowa.edu/~am/csp.html> for the current schedule.

LABORATORY GUIDELINES

1. No food or drink is permitted in the lab.
2. Clean your lab area before you leave.
3. Do not change the PC settings.
4. Do not use the computers for anything besides what the lab book specifies.
5. Silence all electronic devices (cell phone, pager, ipod,...) and refrain from using them during lab.

MAKE-UP LABS

Make-up labs are generally not allowed. If extreme circumstances force you to miss a lab, please contact either myself or your Professor a week in advance. If you miss a lab and contact is made the following week, the lab can not be made up! The University policy is that a scheduled lab takes precedence over any out of class lectures or exams. Consult your student handbook for more specifics.

TUTORIAL

The astronomy tutorial is located in room 665 VAN. The hours are posted on the door and on the website: <http://www.physics.uiowa.edu/atutorial.html>.

Students With Disabilities

Anyone who has a disability which may require some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements should contact me so that a suitable arrangement can be made. Contact me after class or during office hours.

Student Procedures, Rights, and Responsibilities

This course is given by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS). This means that class policies on matters such as requirements, grading, and sanctions for academic dishonesty are governed by CLAS. Students wishing to add or drop this course after the official deadline must receive the approval of the Dean of the CLAS. Details of the University policy of cross enrollments may be found at:

- <http://www.uiowa.edu/provost/deos/~crossenroll.doc>

All students in CLAS courses have specific rights and responsibilities. You have the right to adjudication of any complaints you have about classroom activities or instructor actions. Information on these procedures is available in the CLAS Student Academic Handbook. You also have the right to expect a classroom environment that enables you to learn, including modifications if you have a disability. Your responsibilities to this class, and to your education as a whole, include attendance and participation. You are also expected to be honest and honorable in your fulfillment of assignments and in test-taking situations. You have a responsibility to the rest of the class and to the instructor to help create a classroom environment where all may learn.

Complaints, Plagiarism, and Cheating

“Student Complaints Concerning Faculty Actions” and “Academic Misconduct” procedures are available for your review on-line at the CLAS website. The Department Chair, Prof. Tom Boggess, can be contacted through the Department of Physics & Astronomy Main Office in 203 VAN. As stated in the procedures noted above, complaints or comments regarding TA’s should first be directed to the instructor.