

Astronomy 100

- CRN: 91413, Sec: 820, Credits: 3.00
- Instructor: Dr. Shashi Kanbur, Rm 124A, Snygg Hall, SUNY Oswego.
- Email: kanbur@oswego.edu, Tel: 412 2679.
- Office Hours: Mondays: 9.30-10.30am, Tuesdays 10-11am, Thursdays 2-3pm, or make an appointment by phone or email.
- Lectures: MWF, 10.20-11.15am, in Piez 328.
- Book: "The Cosmic Perspective," by Bennett, Donahue, Schneider and Voit and Jewett, fifth edition.
- Brief Introduction to the Course: A general introduction to modern Astronomy for non-science majors: we will cover some aspects of naked eye astronomy, the solar system, basic properties of stars and some cosmology. A few equations will be presented but these are only required to be understood at a qualitative level.
- Layout of the Course:
 - Traditional lectures, some class discussion, some computer demonstrations.
 - Algebra based.
 - Reading Assignments, homeworks, in class exams and a comprehensive final.
 - Classroom Attendance: Roll call will be taken. Attending lectures is highly recommended. Participating in class room activities will increase your understanding of the material.
 - Grading: There will be three in class exams and a comprehensive final exam. The lowest grade from the three semester exams will be dropped. During the class time we will frequently discuss problems similar to what will be on the exams. These exams will be a mixture of multiple choice and other types of questions but make up exams for the three in class exams will be essays. We will follow SUNY Oswego guidelines regarding makeup for the final exams. Bring a number 2 pencil and college ID card to all exams. No textbooks will be allowed in these exams. All equations that you may need will be given.
 - The exams will not test your memory of equations but your understanding of them.
 - The final exam will be on Monday December 15, 10.30am-12.30pm.

- The first in class exam will be around the middle of September, depending on what progress we make. I will give you plenty of warning and also schedule a review session before such in class exams.
- There will be six-eight homework assignments. You are strongly advised to make concerted efforts to try these and understand the solutions. They will be similar to the type of questions you will get in the exams. You may discuss these with friends but the final submitted solution must be your own work. Not meeting the deadline for a homework assignment submission will result in a zero mark for that homework assignment.
- There will be reading assignments: these are so that you become somewhat familiar with the concepts and ideas you will encounter that day in class. You are not expected to understand the material after a reading assignment. There may be some pop-quizzes after some reading assignments.
- Thus the best 3 out of 4 exams will count to 70-75% of your grade, homeworks, 20-25%, quizzes on readings, attendance 5%.
- Personal Response System (PRS) to do attendance and check progress.
- How do I succeed in this class?
 - * Come to class, get the book, participate in class.
 - * Do NOT be afraid to ask questions.
 - * Do the homeworks, reading assignments and understand the solutions.
 - * Do the reading assignments.
 - * Stay current, hand homeworks in on time.
 - * Think about the material, remain open to be moved, inspired by the material.