

# Astronomy 105G Lab Syllabus

## Section M04

### Spring 2016

**TA: Jodi Berdis**

**Lab Time:** Thursdays 3:30-5:30pm

**Lab Location:** Walden Hall 232

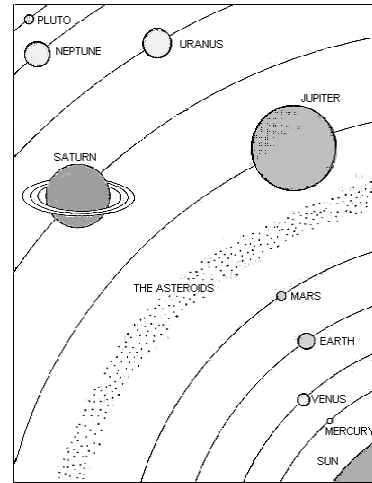
**TA Email:** [berdis@nmsu.edu](mailto:berdis@nmsu.edu)

**Lab Website:**

<http://astronomy.nmsu.edu/berdis/astr105.html>

**TA Office:** Astronomy Hall 108

**TA Office Hours:** Tuesdays 2:30-4:30pm



### Required Materials

You **must** bring your lab manual to every lab! You can purchase the lab manual from FedEx Kinko's at University Avenue and Espina Street for \$30, or you can print the labs out yourself through Canvas or the lab website (listed above). Note: we will **not** do every lab in the lab manual, so it is cheaper to print out the individual labs yourself, although you are still welcome to purchase the whole lab manual if you would like. You must also bring a pencil and a scientific calculator (specifically one that can perform trigonometric functions and take square roots).

### Expectations

At the beginning of each lab, there will be a quiz to assess whether you read the lab ahead of time, as well as your understanding of the lab. **THESE QUIZZES ARE FOR A GRADE.** At the end of the semester, all quiz grades will be added up to account for an additional full lab grade. So you **must** read the lab before class, and you **must** arrive to class on time to take the quiz.

Each student must also bring their own copy of the lab. The labs consist of two parts: the teamwork section and the take-home section. The teamwork section is done in groups during lab, and is worth 65 points (out of 100). The take-home section is done *outside of lab by yourself*, and is worth 35 points (out of 100). One person from each group turns in a copy of the teamwork section with the names of all group members on it by the end of the lab. Each person must turn in their *individual* take-home section at the beginning of the next week's lab class. If a group finishes the lab before the class is over, they may turn in their teamwork section and leave early. **Always** show your work and include units.

Even though your group will only turn in one copy, each student must print out and complete their own copy of the lab. If your copy of the lab is being turned in for the

teamwork section, write your answers on a separate sheet of paper so that you can complete the take-home section.

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. I do not offer make-up labs. However, in the case of emergencies or excused pardons (medical, sports, etc.), come speak to me ahead of time and we can work out a way for you to sit-in on another lab section.

### **Late Work**

Take-home sections are due at the beginning of lab on Thursdays at 3:30. Under no circumstances will assignments be accepted after this time. **I do not accept late work.**

### **Plagiarism**

Science is collaborative by nature and you will be working in groups during lab, however, you must perform your own calculations and write your answers in your own words. For the take-home section, you may **not** turn in work that is identical to another students' work. You may **not** copy sentences or descriptions from the Internet or textbook without citing a source. Assignments containing any acts of plagiarism will receive an automatic **zero** and will be reported to the professor for further disciplinary action.

Review the handy guide at <http://nmsu.libguides.com/plagiarism> to learn how to properly cite sources and avoid plagiarism.

### **Lab Schedule**

Date	Lab
Jan 28	#1: Tools for Success
Feb 04	#7: Density
Feb 11	#6: Scale Model of the Solar System ***
Feb 18	#3: Phases of the Moon
Feb 25	#2: The Origin of the Seasons
Mar 03	#11: Surface of the Moon
Mar 10	#8: Estimating the Earth's Density
Mar 17	NO LAB
Mar 24	NO LAB
Mar 31	#14: The History of Water on Mars
Apr 07	#9: Reflectance Spectroscopy
Apr 14	#17: Characterizing Exoplanets
Apr 21	#16 Building a Comet
Apr 28	#18: Our Sun
May 05	#19: Review for Final Exam

\*\*\* Lab will meet at either the Aggie Memorial Stadium or the East Practice Field on this day; stay tuned for the decision.