

ASTRONOMY 345 – Principles of Astronomy

Course Overview: ASTR 345 provides a broad background for modern astrophysics, with emphasis on planetary science and the physical underpinnings of the field.

- Books: Hartmann: Moons & Planets, 5th Edition
- Class meeting time: Tuesday and Thursday at 10:35 to 11:50 a.m., Todd 211
- Instructor: Guy Worthey, Webster Hall 948C, 335-4994, gworthey@wsu.edu
- Misc. web resources: <http://astro.wsu.edu/worthey/astro/html/>
- Office hours: Tue, Thu 9:30 -10:15 a.m., and by appointment.

Administrative Details:

Good conduct and full participation is expected of each student. Students can be dismissed from the course for behavioral transgressions, subject to appeal through the Vice Provost for Student Affairs and/or the University Conduct Committee, at the discretion of the instructor.

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty, including all forms of cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication, is prohibited as stated in the WSU Handbook (WAC 504-25-015). The instructor reserves the right to take appropriate action.

Disability: Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. Please notify the instructor during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course. Late notification may cause the requested accommodations to be unavailable. All accommodations must be approved through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Administration Annex 205, 335-1566 in Pullman.

Grading: Performance will be evaluated by homework assignments, in-class activities, and 4 tests. Attendance at midterm and final exams is mandatory for a passing grade. Participation in in-class activities is mandatory for a passing grade. The bulk of homework will require written expression, including correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling, along with detailed, step-by-step algebraic explication (that is, “Show Your Work.”). Numerical scores will be weighted in the following categories: Homework (40%), 4 tests (5% early midterm, 15% for middle exams, 20% for final), in-class activities and participation (5%). The composite, weighted score will determine each student’s grade according to the table below.

W.S.U. Letter Grade	W.S.U. Grade Point	Minimum percentage needed to obtain grade
A	4.0	92
A-	3.7	89
B+	3.3	86
B	3.0	83
B-	2.7	80
C+	2.3	77
C	2.0	74
C-	1.7	71
D+	1.3	68
D	1.0	65

The dates of the exams are listed in the calendar below. Makeup exams must be arranged in advance with the professor with suitable documentation such as a note from the coach or doctor and will suffer a 10% penalty in score regardless of the nature of the excuse. Students that miss class should contact the professor, preferably during office hours, to pick up any materials that may have been handed out.

Math: Comfort with algebraic manipulation is assumed. Familiarity with calculus, but not complete mastery, is assumed.

Electronics: Electronic devices that send or receive a signal are not allowed in this course. A nonprogrammable scientific calculator is allowed, and encouraged. Students with documented disabilities will work with the Disabilities Resource Center and the instructor if an exception to this policy is desired.

ASTR 345 Calendar

Date	Hartmn Chapter	Topics	Notes
Tue. Aug 25	1&2	Admin. Info. and Introduction	
Aug 27		SS Overview	Jewett Observatory: Sat. 9 p.m
Tue. Sep 1	3	Celestial Mechanics	
Sep 3			
Tue. Sep 8			
Sep 10	4	Stars & SS Formation	
Tue. Sep 15			
Sep 17			
Tue. Sep 22	5	½-hour Exam	Early Midterm Trial Size Exam
Sep 24		Planet Formation	Jewett Observatory: Sat. 9 p.m
Tue. Sep 29			
Oct 1			
Tue. Oct 6	6	Meteorites	
Oct 8		Exam	Exam 2
Tue. Oct 13			
Oct 15	7	Asteroids	
Tue. Oct 20			
Oct 22		Comets	Jewett Observatory: Sat. 9 p.m
Tue. Oct 27	8	Planet Structure	
Oct 29			
Tue. Nov 3			
Nov 5	9	Surfaces	
Tue. Nov 10			
Nov 12	10		
Tue. Nov 17			
Nov 19		Exam	Exam 3
Nov 23-27	-	Holiday	No class: Thanksgiving Break
Tue. Dec 1	11	Atmospheres	
Dec 3			
Tue. Dec 8	12	Extrasolar Planets and	
Dec 10		Life	
Wed, Dec 16		Final Exam	Exam: 10:10 a.m. -12:00 p.m., Todd 211