

Course Outcome Summary

Standard Course

ASTRN 151 Introduction to Astronomy

Course Information

Division Science/Mathematics

Contact Hours 60 Total Credits 4

Prerequisites RDG 090 and ENGL 090 and MATH 090 or qualifying score on

accepted placement test

Course Description

This course is a non-mathematical introduction to the principles of the astronomy and the universe. It is a course designed to be of interest to the individual without a scientific background who wishes to study the interrelation of the parts of the universe. Major areas of study include historical overviews, stars, stellar evolution, galaxies, cosmology and the solar system. Some day/evening outside observing may be required.

Major Units

- The Scale of the Cosmos
- The Earth and Sky
- Lunar Phases, Tides and Eclipses
- Origin of Modern Astronomy
- Newton, Einstein and Gravity
- Light and Telescopes
- Starlight and Atoms
- The Sun
- White Dwarfs, Supernovae, Neutron Stars, and Black Holes

- Milky Way Galaxy
- Galaxies
- Peculiar Galaxies
- Cosmology
- The Origin of the Solar System
- Earth
- Inner Planets
- Outer Planets
- Comets, Meteoroids and Asteroids
- Life on Other Worlds

Course Outcomes

In order to evidence success in this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Explain how humans view and understand the sky from earth.
- 2. Outline the formation, life, and death of stars.
- 3. Compare and contrast the variety of galaxies with their origin and evolution.



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- 4. Compare and contrast the inner and outer planets and be able to describe the minor bodies of our Solar System.
- 5. Discuss the possibility of life outside Earth and how life evolved on Earth.

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