

AST 1022L: Astronomy Laboratory

Fall 2022

Section 11707: Wednesday — Periods 5-6 (11:45 AM – 1:40 PM)
Bryant Space Sciences Center Room 7 – Basement Level

Instructor: Justin Perea

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Office Hours: Monday 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Friday 1:00 - 2:00 PM, and by appointment

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Physical Science (P) Statement

Physical Science courses provide instruction in the basic concepts, theories and terms of the scientific method in the context of the physical sciences. Courses focus on major scientific developments and their impacts on society, science and the environment, and the relevant processes that govern physical systems. Students will formulate empirically-testable hypotheses derived from the study of physical processes, apply logical reasoning skills through scientific criticism and argument, and apply techniques of discovery and critical thinking to evaluate outcomes of experiments.

Course Objectives and Goals

AST-1022L Astronomy Laboratory counts for one credit of Physical Science (P) towards the General Education requirement. It introduces students to the scientific method as applied to the field of astronomy. The students are introduced to the process of making astronomical observations, quantitatively analyzing those observations, extracting information about astronomical bodies, and understanding how they work. The students will also be introduced to the process of writing a report on an experiment, which involves communicating the details, results and conclusions of that experiment to a reader not necessarily familiar with the experiment.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

- Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies and theories used within Astronomy.
- Students communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to Astronomy

- Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems.

Student Privacy Related Issues

Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate verbally are agreeing to have their voices recorded.

If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the “chat” feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared.

As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled.

The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited.

Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited.

To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services.

A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student.

Course Meeting Times and Locations

AST 1022L Astronomy Laboratory consists of 11 daytime labs and 3 night labs. Daytime labs will be conducted during the scheduled class period (detailed above) in room 7 of the Bryant Space Science Center. The night labs will take place at the Campus Teaching Observatory (CTO) on nights to be scheduled during the first few weeks of class. **You might want to find CTO in the daytime before the first lab**, because absence due to not being able to find the CTO will not be excused. A map to the CTO can be found at <https://astro.ufl.edu/research/telescopes/campus-teaching-observatory/>. Night labs depend on the weather. I will keep you updated via Canvas, posting an announcement to the class regarding the open status of CTO no later than 1 hour before the start time. The observatory certainly will be closed in cases of very poor weather: heavy rain, lightning, thunderstorm or tornado watch or warning.

Lab Requirements

Students will need to bring the following items to all labs:

- Lab Manual: Hands on Astronomy Laboratory Manual is available at Target Copy at 1412 W. University Avenue.
- Writing utensils and extra paper
- Simple scientific calculator

Additionally, we strongly recommend bringing insect repellent to the night labs (there are lots of mosquitoes!).

Food or drinks are strictly not allowed in the laboratory with the exception of water in a spill-proof container. Cell phones must be off or muted for the duration of class. Students should also refrain from text-messaging.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory for **ALL** labs and will be recorded for each class session. You will not receive credit for labs if you do not participate in data collection. If you miss the introduction to an experiment I reserve the right to disallow your participation in the lab, in which case you will receive no credit for that day's lab. Please contact me **BEFORE** class if you will be absent. Please read the section **Late and Make-up Work** regarding valid reasons to skip a lab.

Class work

Quizzes

There will be about 11 lab experiments performed in this course. For each lab you will be expected to have read the write up for the day's experiment to prepare before you attend to class session. There will be a short quiz due at the beginning of most classes. Questions on the quizzes will be taken directly out of the lab write up objective, introduction and procedure text, so please read through the labs carefully before class.

Labs and Assignments

After the introduction and quiz, you will perform the lab experiment and record your data. In most cases you will work with a partner or in a small group, but each student must record their own data sheet. You must have your data sheet initialed by me before you leave. You will be assigned a worksheet and/or a formal lab report to complete for each lab.

Unless otherwise specified, you will have one week to complete the assignment, it being due at the beginning of the next class. If you are present for the data collection but do not turn in the assigned lab work, you will receive zero credit for that assignment.

Please take a clear picture of your work and upload it to Canvas. If for any reason you would rather turn in a physical copy, I will accept that. However, I prefer an online submission when possible.

Night Labs

There will be three night labs held during the semester outside of the regular class time. Attendance to these labs is mandatory and the worksheets that accompany the lab account for 12% of your grade. *During weeks we hold night labs, the scheduled day lab will still take place.* **Night labs do NOT replace the weekly day labs.**

Late and Make-up Work

Late Work Policy

Lab reports or worksheets that are turned in the day they are due after the beginning of class will be penalized 10% off. For each additional day they are late, an extra 15% will be taken off.

Make-up Labs

If you missed class unexpectedly, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss turning in the previous week's lab. Make up labs are only an option in serious cases (religious holiday, jury duty, military obligation, University sponsored activity, serious health problems, or emergencies) and require official documentation. If you do not have a legitimate excuse for missing the lab, you will receive no credit for that lab. Please contact me about making up a lab as soon as you know you will miss the lab.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up labs, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Grading

Grading Scale

Letter grades will then be assigned by the following scale (%):

A = 90 or above	B- = 77-79	D+ = 64-66
A- = 87-89	C+ = 74-76	D = 60-63
B+ = 84-86	C = 70-73	D- = 57-59
B = 80-83	C- = 67-69	E = 56 or below

A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit.

Information about current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Grading Components

The total grade will be weighted as follows:

Worksheets (and answers to the questions)	35%
Formal Lab Report (1)	10%
Double Formal Lab Reports (2)	30%
Observing Night Lab Reports (3)	12%
Quizzes	8%
Participation	5%
Total	100%

Incompletes

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has a strict policy on incomplete grades. With plenty of opportunity to make up labs in cases of official UF excused absences, you should assume that no incomplete grades will be assigned to this course. If at any time you begin to feel you might not be able to complete this course for any reason, do not wait to discuss the matter with myself and/or your academic advisor. The sooner you act the more options you will have available!

Academic Integrity

Group work is encouraged and often necessary during the completion of the labs in this course. Working with others outside of the lab is also acceptable; however, each student must record their data and complete their lab report on their own, and do their own writing. All UF students are bound to abide by the honor code; you can learn more about the honor code here: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>. Any violation of the student code will mean zero points for the experiment and it may be reported to the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

Cheating will not be tolerated in this course; that includes: plagiarizing other students'™ lab reports, copying of fabricating data for an experiment for which you were absent, plagiarizing contextual information from the lab manual, or copying/paraphrasing online resources without proper citations. If you are unsure whether or not you are violating the honor code, discuss it with me while you still have time to revise your work.

Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/accommodations/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. The Disability Resource Center is located at 001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall). I will then be happy to work with you in providing those accommodations.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

University Resources for Counseling and Emergencies

The University provides counseling and mental health services for enrolled students. You can learn more about these services here: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/> or by calling 352-392-1575. The University Police Department can be reached at 352-392-1111; for emergencies, dial 911.