



AST6336-312F(25294) - Interstellar Matter



Course Title: AST 6336 Astrophysics of the Interstellar Medium

Course Semester: Spring 2023

Course Institution: University of Florida

Course Instructor: Professor Desika Narayanan

Instructor Contact Information:

email: desika.narayanan@ufl.edu (<mailto:desika.narayanan@ufl.edu>)

Office Phone: 352-294-1865

Course meeting location:

BRT003 (though we may move to the 5th floor conference room)

Course Meeting Time

T (3pm-4pm)

Th (3pm-5pm)

Office Hours:

Friday 2:30-3:30pm

Course Objectives/Goals:

To examine the fundamentals of the interstellar medium in galaxies.

Required Textbook:

Draine, B., *Physics of the Interstellar and Intergalactic Medium*, Princeton Series in Astrophysics

Assignments, quizzes and exams:

There will be assignments and group projects assigned at a regular cadence throughout the semester.

There will be 1 final exam.



Grading:

The strictest grade policy that I will adopt will follow:

| Letter | % | GPA | Letter | % | GPA | Letter | % | GPA |
|--------|--------|------|--------|-------|------|--------|-------|------|
| A | 93-100 | 4.0 | B- | 80-82 | 2.67 | D+ | 67-69 | 1.33 |
| A- | 90-92 | 3.67 | C+ | 77-79 | 2.33 | D | 63-66 | 1.0 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 3.33 | C | 73-76 | 2.0 | D- | 60-62 | 0.67 |
| B | 83-86 | 3.0 | C- | 70-72 | 1.67 | E | 0-60 | 0 |

UF grade policies may be found at:

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

(<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>)

The grade distribution will be:

65% assignments/projects

25% participation

10% exams

Attendance: Requirements for class attendance and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

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

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Honor Code:

Formal Language: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class”



My Language: Collaboration is an important aspect of science, and you will likely learn as much from one another as you will from me. Hence, you are encouraged to work together and consult one another as you work on your assignments. You may additionally consult the internet as well as any books necessary to complete your assignments. You must, however, turn in your own individual homework, and this must be written on your own. Copying and pasting is not permitted.

You may not obtain materials from students who have taken this course in previous years, nor may you distribute your current materials to students not currently enrolled in this class. You may also not consult materials from students who have taken similar courses in other departments. Please consult me if you have any questions.

Evaluations:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Disabilities: I am committed to supporting the learning process for all students. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are having difficulties in the course. If you need a special accommodation due to a disability, please let me know. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should additionally register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565), www.dso.ufl.edu/drc (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which should be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation.


Learning Environment and Day to Day: I embrace the diversity of age, background, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation and other visible and non visible categories that you bring with you to our shared study of physics. We will all be working closely together throughout the semester, and I expect that all students will contribute to a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment. This includes showing respect for all questions asked by members of the class. As your mobility allows, please be prepared to move seats to sit in groups.

Getting Help:

For technical assistance, please follow the links [in this page](#) ([%24CANVAS_OBJECT_REFERENCE%24/discussion_topics/ga61c4e18dc4b1151ae047fc0cd2226f3](#)).

For other help, please contact Student Services: <https://oas.aa.ufl.edu/uf-sss/> (<https://oas.aa.ufl.edu/uf-sss/>).

[umatterwecare \(https://umatter.ufl.edu/\)](https://umatter.ufl.edu/) is a good clearinghouse for a range of types of student support at UF

Gator Career Closet (<https://umatter.ufl.edu/office/molm-gator-career-closet/>) is a great organization to get you professional clothes for interviews and other professional situations. 

Food insecurity: A significant number of college students identify as food insecure. UF has resources for combating this [here \(https://pantry.fieldandfork.ufl.edu/\)](https://pantry.fieldandfork.ufl.edu/).