**Valencia College Course Syllabus**

**Astronomy – AST1002**

 **CRN-20926 and CRN-21209**

**Term/Year: Spring 2017**

**Instructor: Dr. Irina Struganova**

**Phone: 407-582-1947**

**Email:** **istruganova@valenciacollege.edu**

**Office: 2-230**

**Office Hours:**

**M-F 7:30-8:30 a.m. – email**

**T     2:15 -4:15 p.m.**

**W 10:00a.m.-11:00 a.m.**

**Th        10:00a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

***Other times by appointments only.***

***Instructional Methods: This is an on-line course. It will be taught through a combination of reading assignments, on-line discussions, on-line homework assignments, simulations, and other activities. Appropriate computer skills, knowledge of BlackBoard and Mastering Astronomy online system is necessary to be successful in this course; if you need assistance, please contact your professor ASAP.***

***Students must use a computer with reliable internet access because excuses or failure to complete assessments due to computer error will not be permitted.”***

**COURSE INFORMATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CONTACT HRS/WK** | 3 ( on-line activities) |
|  |  |
| **CREDIT HOURS:** **PREREQUISITE:****REFUND OF FEES:****COURSE DESCRIPTION:****COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:** | 3 NoneThe Drop/Refund deadline for this course is January 17th, 2017.Introductory survey of astronomical universe. Includes study of the Earth as astronomical body as well as the physical processes which govern the evolution of planetary systems, stars, galaxies and the universe in general. Much emphasis on observational evidence, historical tests, and the scientific method. This course fulfills the general education science core requirement.1. Students will be able to apply the pertinent laws of classical and modern physics to analyze problems in planetary motion and atomic structure. 2. Students will gain a basic understanding of the evolution and structure of planetary systems, stars, and galaxies.3. Students will gain a basic understanding of currently dominant theories of Cosmology 4. Students will learn historical background of the science of astronomy.      |
| **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:** | 1. Bennett, Donahue, Schneider, Voit : “

Cosmic Perspective”, 8th edition, Addison-Wesley, 2016 with “New Design” Pearson MyLab/Mastering Astronomy. Package is available in the bookstore or on-line. **You must register for Pearson my Lab Mastering Astronomy component of the Course through the class’ Blackboard link.** **lackboard link.****lackboard link.**1. College ruled paper, pen, etc.

3) Compatible PC and software and Internet access home or allocated extra-time to complete on-line assignments in the library. |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**STUDENT SUCCESS INFORMATION**

**STUDENT SUCCESS INFORMATION**

**Grading Scale:**

**90 – 100% = A**

**80 – 89% = B**

**70 – 79% = C**

**60 – 69% = D**

**Below 60% = F**

**Grading Policy:**

**1) Five Tests – 30% of your class grade (7.5% each; lowest score will be dropped).**

**2) Pearson Mastering Astronomy Homework – 20% of your class grade.**

**3) On-line Blackboard discussions and other activities - 35% of your class grade.**

**4) Final Exam – 15% of your class grade.**

**You must take the final exam. Failure to take the final exam will result in grade “F”**

**for the course, regardless your earned class grade before the final.**

**Course Schedule:**

**Week Topic Textbook Chapters**

**Week 1 (Jan 9 – 15) Introduction/Developing Perspective Ch. 1/2**

**Week 2 (Jan 16-22) Developing Perspective Ch. 2/3**

**Week 3 (Jan 23-29) Test I. Developing Perspective/Key Concepts Ch. 3/4**

**Week 4 (Jan 30 -Feb 5) Key Concepts Ch. 5/6**

**Week 5 (Feb 6 - 12) Learning from other worlds Ch. 7/8**

**Week 6 (Feb 13-19) Test II. Learning from other worlds Ch. 9/10**

**Week 7 (Feb 20- 26) Learning from other worlds Ch. 11-13**

**Week 8 (Feb 27 –Mar 5) Test III. Stars. Ch. 14**

**Week 9 (Mar 6 - 12) Stars Ch. 15/16**

**Week 10 (Mar 20 - 26 ) Test IV. Stars Ch. 16/17**

**Week 11 (Mar 27 – Apr 2) Stars Ch. 18**

**Week 12 (Apr 3-9 ) Galaxies and beyond Ch. 19/20**

**Week 13 (Apr 10 - 16) Test V. Galaxies and beyond Ch. 20/21**

**Week 14 (Apr 17 - 23) Cosmology Ch. 22/23**

**Final Exam** –  **April 23 - 26.**

**Make-up Policies**

**Students who will not be able to complete one assignment or take one test in time due to an excused reason (sickness, death in family and others serious reasons) and have a perfect participation record otherwise at the discretion of the instructor may be allowed to get a time extension for this particular assignment or test. The instructor may request a doctor’s note or other documentation to decide whether to allow a make –up. No time extension or make-ups or late submissions for more than one assignment or test.**

**No time extension or make-up for the final exam.**

**Participation in all activities, as Regularity and Punctuality in learning, is vital to academic success. This is a three credit hour course. You are expected to allocate six hours weekly on average for reading and completing the assignments. You will be given weekly assignments each Monday morning. Days of the week and hours for completion of the assignments are flexible, but you must complete all weekly assignments by an assign deadline.**

**Withdrawal Deadline and Policy**

Per Valencia Policy 4-07 (Academic Progress, Course Attendance and Grades, and Withdrawals) a student who withdraws from class before the **withdrawal deadline of March 31th, 2017** will receive a grade of “W.” A student is not permitted to withdraw from this class after the withdrawal deadline; if you remain in the class after the withdrawal deadline, you can only receive a grade of A, B, C, D, F or I. An I grade will only be assigned under extraordinary circumstances that occur near the end of the semester. If you receive an I, the work missed must be made up during the following semester, at which time you will get an A, B,C,D or F. Failure to make up the work during the following semester will result in you getting a grade of **F** in the course. The professor will not withdraw any student for any reason; it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw themselves before the withdrawal deadline and to be aware of the date of the withdrawal deadline. Any student who withdraws from this class during a third or subsequent attempt in this course will be assigned a grade of “**F**.”

Students on financial aid should consult an advisor or a counselor before withdrawing from a course; there may be financial aid implications to the student which he or she must know about to make an informed decision before withdrawing from a course. Students with some scholarships who withdraw or are withdrawn from a class must pay the college for the cost of the class. Other scholarship sponsors may also require repayment.

For a complete policy and procedure overview on Valencia Policy 4-07 please got to:

 <http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/default.cfm?policyID=75&volumeID_1=4&navst=0>

**II. Special Course Withdrawal Policy**

**1) Students not registered for Mastering Astronomy by 11:00 p.m. on January 11th, 2017, will be dropped from the course.**

**2) Students who fail to make a post in the “Introduction” discussion by 11:00 p.m.**

**on January 11st, will be dropped from the course.**

 **3) Students who fail to complete four assignments (including homework,**

**discussions, tests, and others) within required time frames before March 31st , 2017, are subject to withdrawal by the instructor.**

**Students on financial aid should consult an advisor or counselor before withdrawing from a course;** there may be financial implications to the student which he or she must know about to make an informed decision before withdrawing from a course. Students with some scholarships who withdraw or are withdrawn from a class must pay the college for the cost of the class. Other scholarship sponsors may also require repayment.

In order to academically maintain financial aid, students must meet all of the following requirements:

* Complete 67% of all classes attempted, and
* Maintain a Valencia GPA of 2.0 or higher, and
* Maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher, and
* Complete  degree within the 150% timeframe

Detailed information about maintaining satisfactory academic progress (SAP) can be found at:

 <http://valenciacollege.edu/finaid/satisfactory_progress.cfm>

**Valencia College Core Competencies**

*“The faculty of Valencia College has identified four core competencies that define the learning outcomes for a successful Valencia graduate. These competencies are at the heart of the Valencia experience and provide the context for learning and assessment at Valencia College. You will be given opportunities to develop and practice these competencies in this class. The four competencies are:*

1. ***Think****- think clearly, and creatively, analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in the many domains of human inquiry*
2. ***Value****- make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments*
3. ***Communicate****- communicate with different audiences using varied means*
4. ***Act****- act purposefully, effectively and responsibly.”*

**ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM INFORMATION**

**Security Statement**

*We want to reassure you that our security officers are here around the clock to ensure the safety and security of the campus community. It’s important to remain alert and aware of your surroundings, especially during the early morning or evening hours. Remember that you can always call security for an escort if you feel uncomfortable walking alone on campus. White security phones can also be found in many of our buildings; simply pick up the phone and security will answer.
Finally, report any suspicious persons to West Campus Security at 407-582-1000, 407-582-1030 (after-hours number) or by using the yellow emergency call boxes located on light poles in the parking lots and along walkways.*

**E-mail communication with the instructor:**

Preferred method of e-mail communication is through the **BlackBoard** site. You can also contact me through the **Atlas using your Valencia e-mail address**. **I will not reply** to e-mail messages sent from external servers (gmail, hotmail, etc).

During weekdays, you will receive a response to your emails within 24 hours. Messages sent on weekends will be answered on Monday.

**Academic Honesty Statement**

 *All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the student’s individual thoughts, research, and self-expression unless the assignment specifically states ‘group project.’*

**Completing your on-line assignments, including Blackboard Discussions and Mastering Astronomy essay questions, you must ANSWER QUESTIONS INDIVIDUALLY AND USE YOUR OWN WORDS. DO NOT COPY/PASTE. YOUR ANSWERS WILL BE CHECKED FOR PLAGIARISM.**

**IF IT WILL BE FOUND THAT YOUR ANSWER IS TOO SIMILAR TO THAT OF ANOTHER STUDENT OR TO AN ANSWER AVAILABLE ONLINE OR FROM OTHER PUBLISED SOURCES:**

1. **The first time you will receive “zero” grade for a particular assignment.**
2. **The second time instructor may drop you from the course with an “F” grade without any additional warnings.**

**Baycare Behavioral Health’s Student Assistance Program**

“*Valencia is committed to making sure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help that may assist them with psychological issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home or work. Students have 24 hour unlimited access to the* ***Baycare Behavioral Health’s confidential student assistance program*** *phone counseling services by calling* ***(800) 878-5470****. Three free confidential face-to-face counseling sessions are also available to students.”*

**Students with Disabilities Information:**

*"Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a Notification to Instructor (NTI) form from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class; accommodations will not be applied retroactively. The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities."*

***West Campus SSB, Rm. 102 Phone: 407-582-1523 Fax: 407-582-1326***

**College Catalog/Student Handbook/Policy Manual**

* A full description of all College policies can be found in the College Catalog at [http://www.valenciacollege.edu/catalog/](http://www.valenciacc.edu/catalog/)
* The Student Handbook can be found at: <http://valenciacollege.edu/studentdev/CampusInformationServices.cfm>
* The Policy Manual can be found at <http://www.valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/>
* The college calendar can be found at <http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar/> for important dates.

**Study tips:**

**1)Allocate 1-2 hours every day for reading the text and completing the assignments. It is hard, if not impossible to complete all assigned work within one day.**

**2)Take NOTES reading the text and completing the assignment. Make list of confusing topics and questions. Clarify confusing concepts and steps as soon as possible by asking the instructor and/or your classmates.**

**3) Take advantage of the professor’s office hours. Yes, you can see me on campus during my office hours!**

**4) Get to know your classmates! Communicate with them through the Blackboard. JOIN or FORM A STUDY GROUP or on-line LEARNING COMMUNITY.**

**Disclaimer Statement**

*The course outline and syllabus are subject to change as needed; changes will be posted on the BlackBoard in a timely manner, when necessary. Your continued participation in this course after the drop-add deadline period constitutes an agreement with and an acceptance of the conditions presented in this syllabus.*