



SC 120 Introduction to Astronomy

Fall 2010

Instructor: Dr. Leonid Braverman

E-mail: lbraverman@ambrose.edu

Office: 2202

Office Hours: TBA

Class Location: A 1085-1

Class Time: Tue 6:30-9:30 pm

Credits: 3

Pre-Requisites: No

Text: N. Comins, W. Kaufmann III “Discovering the Universe”, 7th or 8th edition, W. H. Freeman & Company.

Course Description: A comprehensive, descriptive survey of modern astronomy including elements of the history of astronomy. Topics include: solar system; the birth and death of stars; the Milky Way and other galaxies; cosmic rays, pulsars and supernovae; the concept of a black hole; exploding galaxies and quasars; the beginning and end of the universe; the possibilities of extraterrestrial life and interstellar communication. This course is not recommended for natural science majors.

Evaluation

Attendance	5%
Quizzes (2)	20% each
Essay	15%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

Note: Students must complete all components in order to complete the course.

Attendance

At Ambrose University College, students are expected to attend all classes or notify the instructor of a necessary absence (see regulations in the Academic Calendar)

Essay

Students will be asked to present one essay (topics will be announced later).

Quizzes

Two fifty-minute quizzes that will test students' knowledge of materials covered to that point.

Final Exam

A cumulative two-hour test

The Course Material is divided into 10 Units:

1. Discovery Night Sky
2. Gravitation and Planets
3. Light and Telescope
4. The Earth
5. Moon and other Terrestrial Planets
6. Outer Planets
7. Light and Matter; The Sun
8. Stars – Introduction
9. Stars – Lifecycles
10. Black Holes, Galaxies, Cosmology