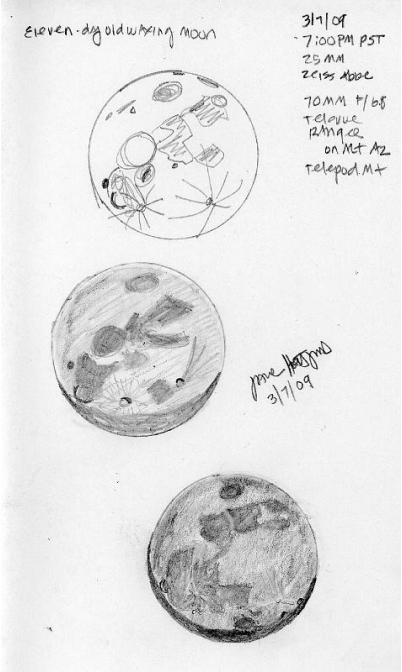
SYLLABUS PART A
(KEY INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLASS: ALL STUDENTS MUST READ THIS AND SIGN THE FORM AT THE END)



ASTRONOMY 195 – INTRODUCTORY ASTRONOMY LABORATORY
Spring 2020

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KCTCS catalog description

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AST 195 (1) Course ID:000065

Introductory Astronomy Laboratory
Involves performance of exercises in both planetary and stellar astronomy,
including Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion and Newton's Laws of Motion.
Examines the functions and limitations of different types of telescopes and
mounts.  Includes observation of the sun, moon, planets, binaries, galaxies,
and nebulae.  Prerequisite or corequisite: AST101 or AST191 or AST192; MT 120
or two years of high school algebra; or consent of the instructor.
Components: Laboratory
Attributes: SL - Science Laboratory
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Required texts, supplies, materials

No book is required for this course. All needed materials will be provided via the AST 195 web page. However, a telescope is required for the course—a Meade Polaris 70mm German Equatorial Refractor. More details about the telescope will be provided on the class web page.

Course requirements

All students must familiarize themselves with this syllabus – no grades will be given until the student has signed and returned the last page of this syllabus, and *any student who has not returned the syllabus within two weeks of the first day of lab will receive a failing grade for the lab* and should withdraw at that point (this is because at that point it will be clear that the student is not interested in the course, and this course is designed for students with an interest in astronomy). Students must thoroughly review the class web page

(**www.jefferson.kctcs.edu/faculty/graney**) at least twice a week, and are responsible for content on the web page and for using the class web page to stay current with what is going on in the class. With the exception of announcements, no material is ever removed from the web page, for the duration of the class. The class web page will be used as reference material and to distribute various articles and hand-outs that may be used as supplementary material. There is no specific grade weighting to this; students who do not keep up with the web page will simply not know what is going on in the class.

Specific grades are given for various lab assignments/projects, each of which will carry equal weight. There will be no tests or quizzes and no final exam as such, although assignments/projects may contain elements that are similar to test, quizzes, exams, etc. (although usually they are of a hands-on nature and will not contain these elements).

Note – there will be no "pop" assignments of any sort that are graded. All graded assignments (projects) will be announced on the class web page at least one week prior to the date of the assignment.

Evaluation and grading criteria

A student's AST 195 grade can be calculated by simply averaging the student's assignment/project grades.

Grades will be assigned as follows: **90%-100% A; 80%-89% B; 70%-79% C; 60%-69% D; 0%-59% E**. Incomplete or "I" grades will be given only in case of serious illness or other extreme circumstance. Final grades may be curved upwards to comply with directives of the college president regarding grades. To cover emergencies such as missed quizzes due to sickness, temporary conflicts with job schedules, etc., students may fail to turn in up to two assignments and the zero grades will be waived. Students do not need to provide a documented "reason" for not turning in an assignment. Any assignment not turned in will be assumed to be missed due to an emergency. Beyond two misses zero grades are not waived – regardless of "reason" – due to lack of work completed.

Regarding Withdrawals: To withdraw from a class means to leave the course after the 100% refund date. Students withdrawing from a course will earn a W and could be responsible for financial charges for the course. Withdrawals for this class are subject to the Academic Calendar of Jefferson Community and Technical College (https://jefferson.kctcs.edu/education-training/academic-calendar/index.aspx). Prior to the mid-point of the semester, students may withdraw without the instructor's approval. After the mid-point, students need the instructor's approval to withdraw. JCTC does not allow withdrawals after the end of class work (i.e. does not allow withdrawals during the exam period). JCTC is focused on student success, and no student who withdraws from a class can be successful in that class. Students who need to withdraw on account of extraordinary life circumstances may pursue an administrative withdrawal. For further information, see the Jefferson web page.

Attendance, Work Completion, and Student Success

I do the most rigorous data analysis regarding student success of any member of the faculty, staff, or administration at this college. My data shows that the key to being a successful AST 195 student is to do the simple basics of being a college student: attend class; complete the work assigned (and turn it in – which is part of "completion"). The data show that students who do this are always successful. I support student success. I oppose students following a course of action that will not lead to success. As a scientist, I follow the data. Therefore, students who cannot be present at every class, for the entire class, and cannot complete the work for the class, *should drop the course during the Drop/Add period* (which is typically during the first week of class), and either take a different course or hold off on college until their life circumstances allow for going to, and doing the work required for, a college class. Furthermore, during the course of the semester students who do not attend and do not complete the work will placed under the special supervision of the college president, per KCTCS policy, and will be considered for academic suspension:

> Section V, 2.0.3.2 Unsatisfactory Scholarship and Excessive Absences
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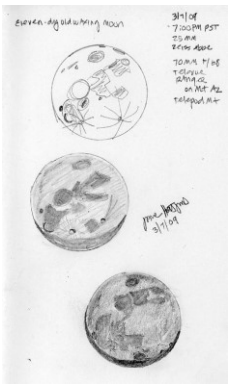
> > A student who is performing unsatisfactorily or who, in the opinion of the instructor, has excessive absences in any course may be reported to the college president or designee. This student shall be under the special supervision of the college president or designee....
> > Any student reported to the president or designee because of unsatisfactory scholarship or excessive absences shall be considered for academic suspension under the provisions of Section V, 4.0.3 at the end of the term during which the reporting occurred.

See the KCTCS "Rules of the Senate," under "Academic Policy".

ATTEND EVERY CLASS, AND TURN IN ALL THE ASSIGNED WORK, AND YOU WILL BE A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT IN THIS AST 195 CLASS.

Please detach this page and sign it.



This syllabus must be reviewed and this page printed, signed, initialed, and returned to the professor before any grades will be recorded for this course. Students who do not sign and return the syllabus within the college's "no-show" reporting period will be reported as no-shows. Students who do not returned this page by the time of the third week of class will receive a failing grade for the class and should withdraw at that point.

I have read this AST 195 LAB syllabus in its entirety. I understand the contents therein.

Name (print):

Name (signed):

Date:

Initial the following:

____ *I understand that I must thoroughly review the class web page (www.jefferson.kctcs.edu/faculty/graney) at least twice a week, and am responsible for content on the web page and for using the web page to stay current with what is going on in the class.*

____ *I understand that the professor's data shows that attending class and completing the assigned work is key to success in the class, and that therefore the professor recommends dropping the course for any student who cannot attend and complete the work.*

___ ***Special note to any high school students taking this class:*** *High school students taking this class are fully students in a college class. High school students are therefore ultimately responsible for their own attendance at, and work in, this class. High school issues such as school bus schedules and high school events that may conflict with the class must be handled by high school students on their own, in the same way that work, transportation, and family problems are handled by their peers in the class who are older.*