

SYLLABUS
Spring 2011
SCIE 3304: Introductory Astronomy

Instructor: Ximena Cid
Lecture Time: Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 – 10:50 am
Lecture Location: 129 Science Hall

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 – 12:00 pm or **by appointment**
Office Location: 010 Science Hall (Basement)
Phone Number: (817) 272-2443
Email: xcid@uta.edu
Website: <http://www.uta.edu/physics/courses/ximena/index.html>
(If you don't have your syllabus, you can go to the physics website, go to people and then click on my picture and that will get you to the website as well.)

Required Course Material:

- 1.) Text Book:** *Discovering the Universe*, 8th Edition, Neil F. Commins and W. J. Kaufmann III (W. H. Freeman and Company publication)
- 2.) Class Slides:** Class slides will be available at least a day before class. It is to your advantage to print them out (4 to a page double sided to save trees) before class so that you can take notes of things discussed during class. However, it is not required that you have them in class.
- 3.) Index Cards:** You will be required to bring an index card (can not turn in paper after first week) to each lecture. At the end of each lecture you will write a question that you have. It can be about lecture, lab, homework, outside concepts that you are interested in, etc. In the beginning of each lecture, I will discuss index card questions. **(Please note your index cards will count as your attendance)**
- 4.) Office Hours:** You will be required to attend at least 2 office hours over the course of the semester. This gives me a chance to get to know you better and to get you used to going to office hours.
- 4.) Scantrons:** # 882-E are the ones to be used on the exams.

Course Description:

This course is Introductory Astronomy for teachers. We will cover as many chapters as possible while maintaining a clear understanding of the material. This means that the speed of the course will depend on the comprehension of the class as a whole. If there are some topics that are easier than others, we will move quicker through those sections.

If there are some topics that are harder than others we will move at a slower pace in order to make sure that the class has a clear understanding. We will not be going through every section of the book meaning there will be sections that are skipped.

Exams and Grading:

There will be three Midterms and a Final exam. If you are not present for an exam you will be awarded a zero on that exam (**unless prior arrangements have been made**). You will be allowed to drop one Midterm grade that has the lowest score (if you miss a midterm that zero can be the one that you drop, but it is not recommended to miss a midterm!). The exams will consist mainly of multiple choices, with a few short answer problems. There will occasionally be homework and quizzes in this course and they may **not** be turned in late. Because there is no lab associated with this course attendance is mandatory. Attendance will be taken daily based on your index cards.

The Final exam will be comprehensive with an emphasis on material not covered on last midterm. Your course grade will be determined as follows:

- Final Exam:** 25%
- Midterms (best 2 of 3):** 60% (30% each test)
- Attendance:** 5%
- Class Participation:** 10%

Class participation is determined by several factors. You are required to attend at least 2 office hours. This allows me to get to know each of you as students instead of just numbers on my score sheet. You are required to bring index cards with you to class. This allows me to see where you are having trouble and what you are interested in. I will be periodically giving homework assignments, which may include writing assignments. I will be periodically giving class quizzes as well.

Dates to Remember:

February 2 nd	Census Date
March 14 th – 18 th	Spring Break (no class)
April 1 st	Last day to drop
May 12 th	Final Exam at 8:00 – 10:30am

Americans With Disabilities Act

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 93112 – The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act – (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “**reasonable accommodations**” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with **informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.**

Academic Dishonesty

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

“Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.” (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22)

Student Support Services Available

The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at (817) 272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.