Syllabus for Astronomy 99

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2022
Course ID & Section #: Astro 99 (E3297)
Instructor's name: Dr. Jon Pedicino
Day/Time, Monday 2:50-3:55 PM, Hum 129
Course units: 1.0

Instructor Contact Information

Office: Hum 209, MW 9:00-10:00 AM
Email address: jon-pedicino@redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

The search for life outside of our solar system is a constant theme of study in Astronomy. If we are not alone, then it stands to reason that some lifeforms may have developed intelligence and interstellar transport. Have we been visited? What UFO stories are the most compelling and deserved of serious scientific inquiry? Critical thinking and the scientific method will be applied to this question..

Course Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

1. **Demonstrate how the scientific method is used to understand and analyze natural and artificial phenomena.**

Grading

52%-Class Meets (13) 100 pts each **36%**- Presents (3) 300 pts each **12%**- Paper, 300 pts.
A (>93.3%), A- (90-93.3%), B+ (86.7-89.9%), B (83.3-86.6%), B- (80-83.2%), C+ (76.7-79.9%), C (70-76.6%), D (55-69.9%), F (<55%)

Accessibility

Students will have access to online course materials that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor.
College of the Redwoods is also committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

During COVID19, approved accommodations for distance education classes will be emailed to the instructor by DSPS. In the case of face to face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments cannot usually be accommodated.

Astronomy 99 Class Schedule

Monday, January 24, First day of class

Monday, February 21, No Class, President's Day

Monday-Friday, March 14-18, No Class, Spring Break

Monday, May 2, Last Class

Friday, May 6, Paper due before midnight on Canvas

Astronomy 11 Topics/Outline

January 24	Introduction, Is There Life Beyond Earth?
January 31	Formation of the Universe, Supernovae, Galaxies, Scale
February 7	Presentations of compelling UFO stories/Astronomy Mysteries
February 14	Presentations
February 28	Presentations
March 7	Our Solar System, Planets, Moons, Asteroids, and Comets
March 21	Light as Information, Out There…., Exoplanets
March 28	Presentations
April 4	Presentations
April 11	Presentations
April 18	Propulsion, Exploration Missions, Human Spaceflight, Voyagers, Moon and Mars
April 25	Presentations
May 2	Presentations, **Papers Due**

Research Essay Requirements
Astronomy 99

Topic: Are we alone in the Universe? Write a paper based on your opinion of this topic including materials that we have discussed this semester.

Length: 3-5 double-spaced typed pages (or comparable amount of material completed in a different format), excluding figures and list of references.

Sources: Minimum three (3) sources other than encyclopedias. I encourage you to use the web or recent periodicals as sources. Many books will be out of date as the field of astronomy changes quite rapidly.

Required: Title page, Essay, References (footnotes), Reference List (bibliography).

Due Date: Friday, May 6, 2022 before midnight on Canvas.

Late Penalty: <u>No late papers accepted</u>.

<u>Note:</u> **Bibliography** should be a list of all sources you have consulted with full information given about each. Normally this includes title, author, publisher, page numbers, year, etc. Internet sites should be listed with their site address (i.e. http:/www.....). To simplify, you might list each site as site 1, site 2, etc., and then reference them in that way in the text of your paper.

You should directly **reference** any idea, fact, or quotation that is not your own or common knowledge (i.e. 'the Earth is round' does not need a reference). You are free to use any reference style you would like (footnote, endnotes, etc.). I think that the simplest style includes the Author's name or Title and the Page number immediately following the referenced fact, quote, or idea in parentheses. I can then find the full listing for the source in the bibliography if need be. If the reference is for a web site, referencing it as site 1, site 2, etc. would be fine. <u>An example:</u> "The meteoritic impact in the Yucatan peninsula is believed to have led to the extinction of the dinosaurs." (Kring, 1993) or (site 1)