

Astronomy 10 SYLLABUS

Spring 2020

- **Schedule # 50156**
- **Lecture: MWF 11 – 11:50 and Lab class Wednesday 1:30 – 3:20**

Contact Information:

- Instructor Name: Lauren J. Novatne
- Phone Number: 638 – 3641 ext. 3434
- Email: lauren.novatne@reedleycollege.edu
- Office hours: Monday and Friday 12 - 1 PM, Tuesday is a virtual office hour (you contact me via email) and Thursday from 9 - 10

Recommended Course Materials:

- Textbook: **Is online and FREE!!** There is a module close to the top of the Canvas page called “Astronomy Textbook and Crash Course Astronomy Link for this class”. Click on the file titled “Astronomy textbook – it’s a pdf file that you can view online or download to read.

Course Objective:

This course covers Astronomical concepts with a minimum of math, while fulfilling the science with a lab general education requirement for the CSU and UC systems. The topics covered in this course are: The planets, solar system mechanics, stellar evolution, galaxies and basic cosmology.

Calendar:

- Holidays: Monday January 20th, Friday February 14th, Monday February 17th, April 6th – 9th Spring Break
- May 18th – 22nd Final Exams week
- **LAST DAY TO DROP THIS CLASS: Friday March 15th. AFTER THAT DATE, I MUST GIVE YOU A GRADE!!**

Final Exam: Wednesday May 20th at 11 AM in PHY 70 – the room where the class is held

Exams:

Exams: There will (probably) be three midterm exams and one final exam. The exams have conceptual questions that are multiple choice in format, and some short answer questions from the lab activities, the CCQs and the Reading questions. There will also be some very simple algebra problems that are appropriate for astronomy. Don’t worry; you’ll have lots of support for the math part. The exams contribute **60%** of your semester grade, so they are very important to prepare for. The exams are online, during our two-hour lab.

Crash Course Questions (CC Qs):

Doing CC Qs assists you in two ways: 1) it helps you learn the material, and 2) it lifts your grade.

The CCQs are **14%** of your semester grade. This means that if you get 100% for the other parts of your grade, and don't do any CCQs, you will get a 'B', not an 'A' for the course. It also means that if you do the CCQs, and your grade is a 75%, you will get a 'B' in the course, not a 'C'.

Laboratory:

This class has a lab that is mandatory. There will be lab results (sheets that I provide you with) due at the end of each session. The lab results will constitute **12%** of your semester grade.

Reading Questions:

The reading questions will be from the textbook or provided recent scientific articles The Reading Questions are worth **14%** of your grade.

Attendance:

Attendance is worth 2% of your semester grade. If you are absent from class for 3 class sessions in a row, or for 6 class sessions in a 3-week period – **AND YOU HAVEN'T CONTACTED ME** – I will drop you from the class.

Grading Policy:

% Grade for the Class	Letter Grade For the Class		Category of classwork	% of Class Grade
90 – 100 %	A		Exams	60%
80- 89 %	B		Crash Course Questions	14%
65 – 79 %	C		Lab Reports	10%
55 – 64 %	D		Reading questions	14%
0 – 54 %	F		Attendance	2%

Accessibility Accommodation

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.