

Astronomy 101 Winter 2014 Syllabus

Teaching Assistant: Brett Morris

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My Office: PAB B337

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday from 11:00-12:00, or by appointment

Section Website: goo.gl/QeRBXm

Section Room: PAA A216

Welcome to AST 101! Here are some guidelines for how I will run our sections and a few reiterations of Dr. Balick's syllabus pertaining to section.

Office Hours: My office (B337) is in the Physics and Astronomy Building (PAB) on the third floor, look for the "B. Morris" tag next to my door. You can find me in my office on Monday and Wednesday from 11:00-12:00, or if those times don't work for you, send me an email and we'll find one that works.

Office hours are your chance to get help with assignments, ask questions before exams, and learn more about astronomy. Don't wait until the day before an exam to ask a question!

Section Work: Your work in sections counts for **40% of your grade** in this course, nearly double the midterm or the final, so it is best that you take it seriously. I will not directly take attendance at each section, however graded assignments will be given during each section. If you do not attend the section, you will miss a graded assignment.

Late Work: Unexcused late work is very strongly discouraged, so the penalties incurred for late assignments are harsh. Assignments are due in the first few minutes of each section. Late work will be accepted in my mailbox for a maximum score of up to half of the total score of the assignment until 5pm that day. After the 5pm cutoff, no further late work will be accepted.

Regarding late work in Dr. Balick's syllabus: *"Late work is accepted under two conditions: You get our permission and we agree on a final due date. Several of the exercises require special equipment so there is no way to make these up. No late work will be accepted after March 11."*

Group work: It is often extremely helpful to do homework assignments in courses like this one in groups. I encourage working with your classmates on homework, so long as the assignments you turn in are unique and independently written up. The best practice for group work without the threat of plagiarism is to work out the problems together once, and write up the copy that you will turn in separately. No two assignments that I grade should be identical.