

Goals of Astronomy 116: (1) To provide a broad overview of modern scientific understanding of the cosmos; (2) To focus clearly on the scientific method and on key physical principles that apply universally; (3) To include a comparative study of the components of the Solar System; (4) To provide an evolutionary approach to stars, galaxies and dark matter; (5) To integrate the study of cosmology throughout the course.

Astronomy 116

Spring Semester, 2004

Prerequisite: background in chemistry and mathematics

Text: Bennett, Donahue, Schneider, Voit, The Essential Cosmic Perspective, Second Edition

Instructors: Dr. William Baird, Pierce 207
Mr. James Honeycutt, Pierce 208

Course Content:

Fundamentals: Chapters 1-6

Test 1 (17 February 2004)

The Solar System: Chapters 7-11

Test 2 (25 March 2004)

Stars and Galaxies: Chapters 12-17

Test 3 (20 April 2004)

Dark matter, Big Bang and E.T. life: Chapters 18-20

Final Exam (May 5, 2004, (9 am - 12)
(cumulative)

Weighting: Quizzes 11%, Tests 33%, Lab 33%, Final Exam 22%

Grading: Grades given for this course will be a subset of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, F. See catalog, page 86.

Attendance: Not required, but encouraged.

The Oxford College Honor Code applies to all written work in this course.