by

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

2004

Approved by

Chairperson of Supervisory Committee

Program Authorized   
to Offer Degree

Date

Abstract

by

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A thesis presented on the history of astronomy and the solar system, beginning with the birth of the solar system, and covering the geology, atmosphere, and moons of Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus.

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# Acknowledgments

The author wishes to express sincere appreciation to Professors Smith and Jones for their assistance in the preparation of this manuscript. In addition, special thanks to Dr. Elsa Leavitt whose familiarity with the needs and ideas of the class was helpful during the early programming phase of this undertaking. Thanks also to the members of the school council for their valuable input.

# Glossary

Asteroid. A very small planet ranging from 1,000 km to less than one km in diameter. Asteroids are found commonly around other larger planets.

Atmosphere. The gaseous mass that surrounds any planet, including Earth.

Density. The number (as of particles) per unit of measure.

Galaxy. A system of stars independent from all other systems.

Moon. The natural satellite of any planet.

Orbit. The path taken by a satellite around a celestial body.

Planet. A large, nonluminous mass, usually with its own moons, which revolves around a star. Planets are found everywhere in the galaxy.

Solar. Having to do with the sun.

## Chapter 1

### The Solar System

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