

Astro-286 - Exoplanets

General info:

In this course we will learn about the formation and evolution of planetary systems with an emphasis on the current unsolved problems in the field. I have the following subjects in mind:

- (i) *Beautiful physics*: planetary systems present a great opportunity to touch upon different physical processes, from fluid mechanics, accretion physics to dynamics.
- (ii) *Solving problems*: facing a problem we have different ways to approach the solution, sometime understanding the physics and the assumptions are the key. I will focus on this through questions during class and homework assignments.
- (iii) *Hot topic in the field*: what are some of the current hot topics in the field?

Some useful information:

- *Instructor*: Smadar Naoz, Email: snaoz@astro.ucla.edu
- *Reader*: Emily Martin
- *Webpage*: <http://www.astro.ucla.edu/~snaoz/Astro286/>
- *When?* The class takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00pm - 4:00pm.
- *Where?* PAB 3rd floor conference room
- *Home-Work assignments*: mandatory and will be 35% of the final grade.
- *Final*: There will be a final project - more details will follow.
- *Office hour*: Tuesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm @ PAB 3-724

Syllabus

- Observations of exoplanets
- The two body problem, Kepler laws
- Protoplanetary disks and their evolution, which includes (but not limited to) accretion disks, viscous disks
- Planetesimal formation
- Terrestrial planet formation
- Gas giant formation
- Planet evolution, disk planet interactions
- Dynamical evolution of planets
- Multi-body dynamics
- Debris disks
- Habitability