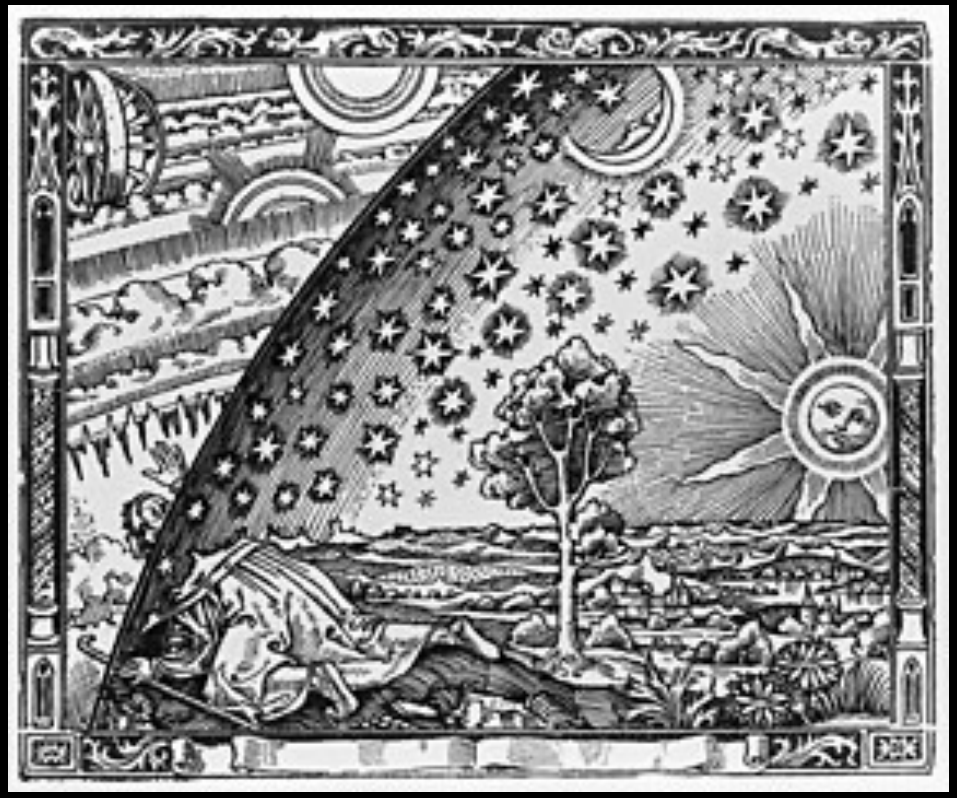
Welcome to Astronomy 100!

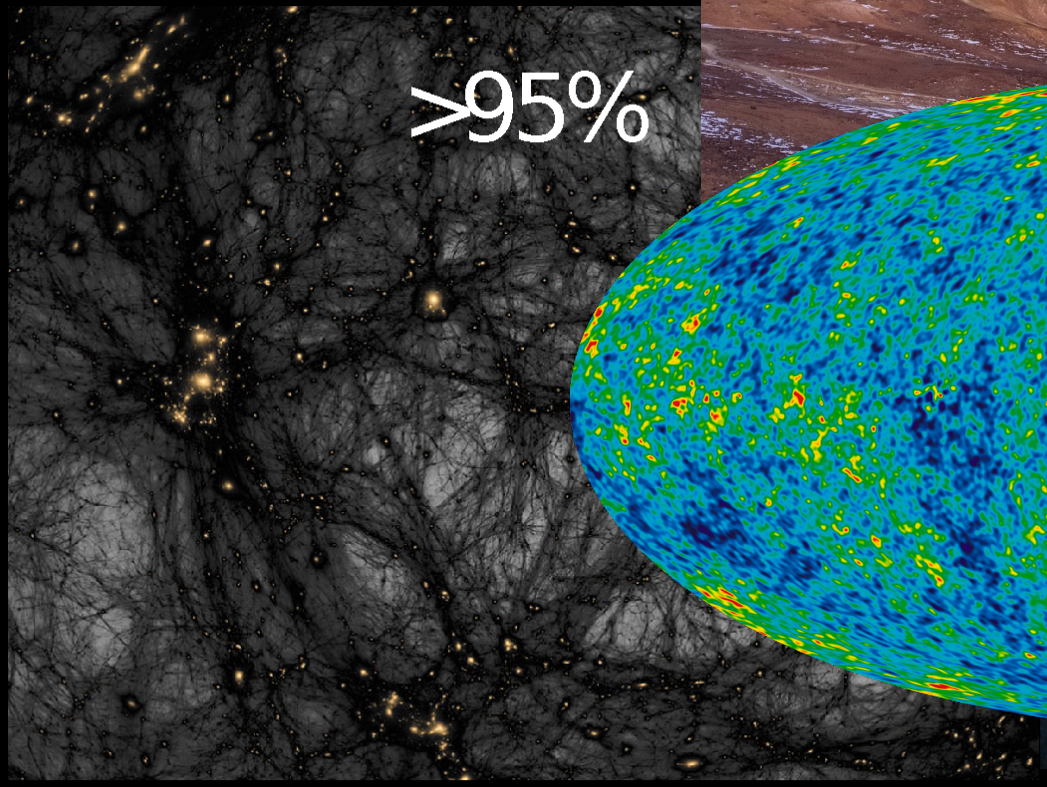


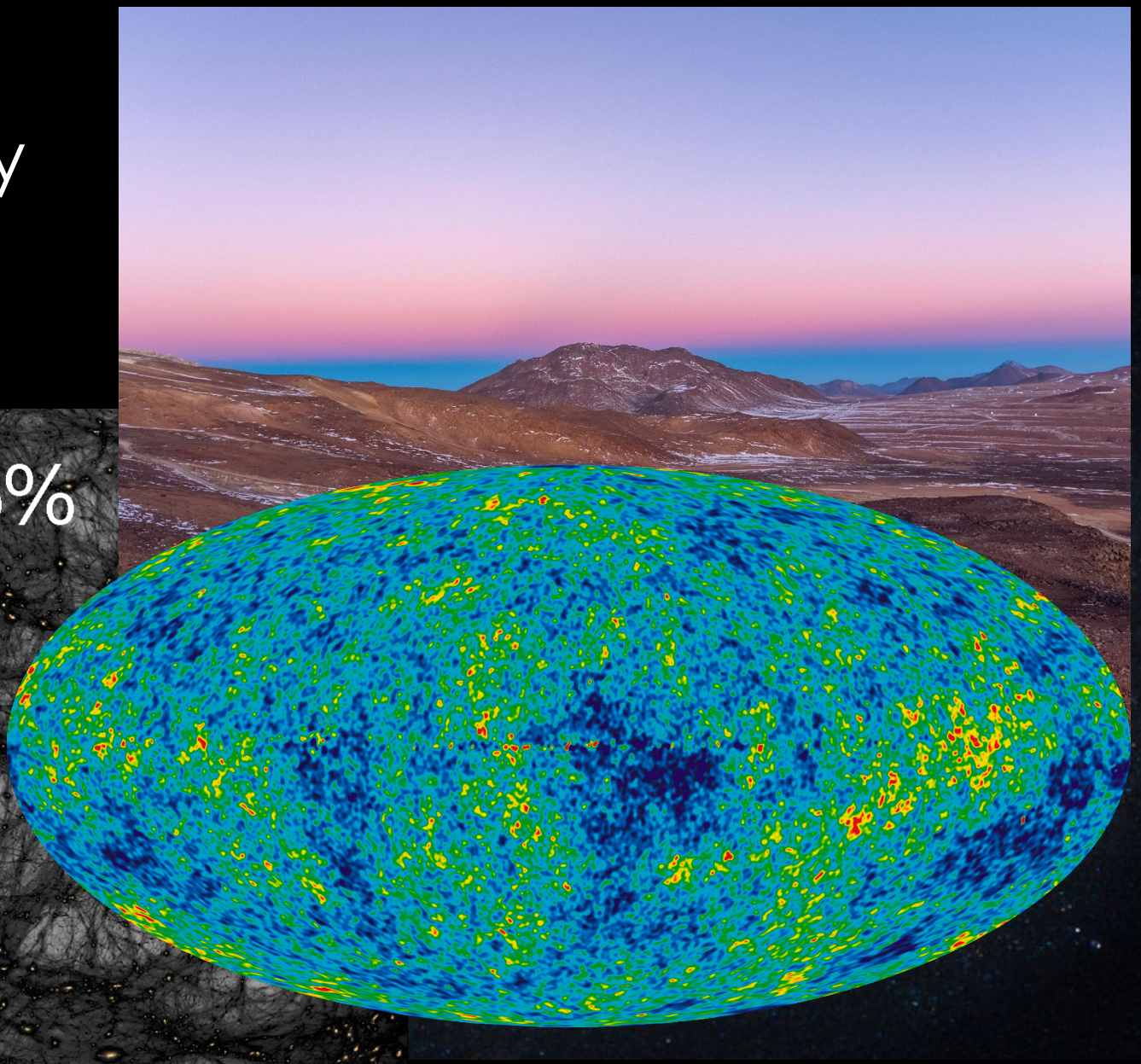
Prof. Vera Gluscevic

vera.gluscevic@usc.edu

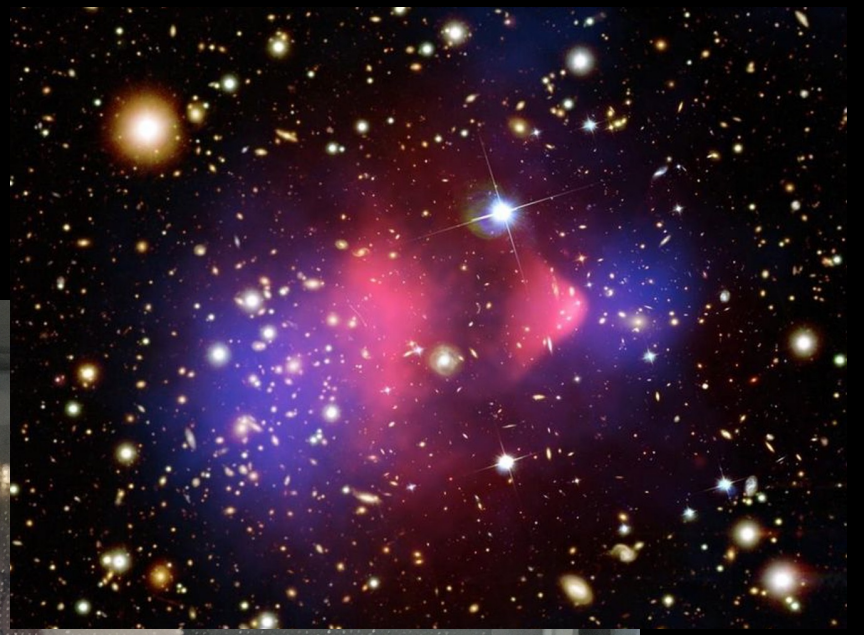
Who I am

- ✓ teacher
- ✓ USC faculty
- ✓ adviser
- ✓ researcher

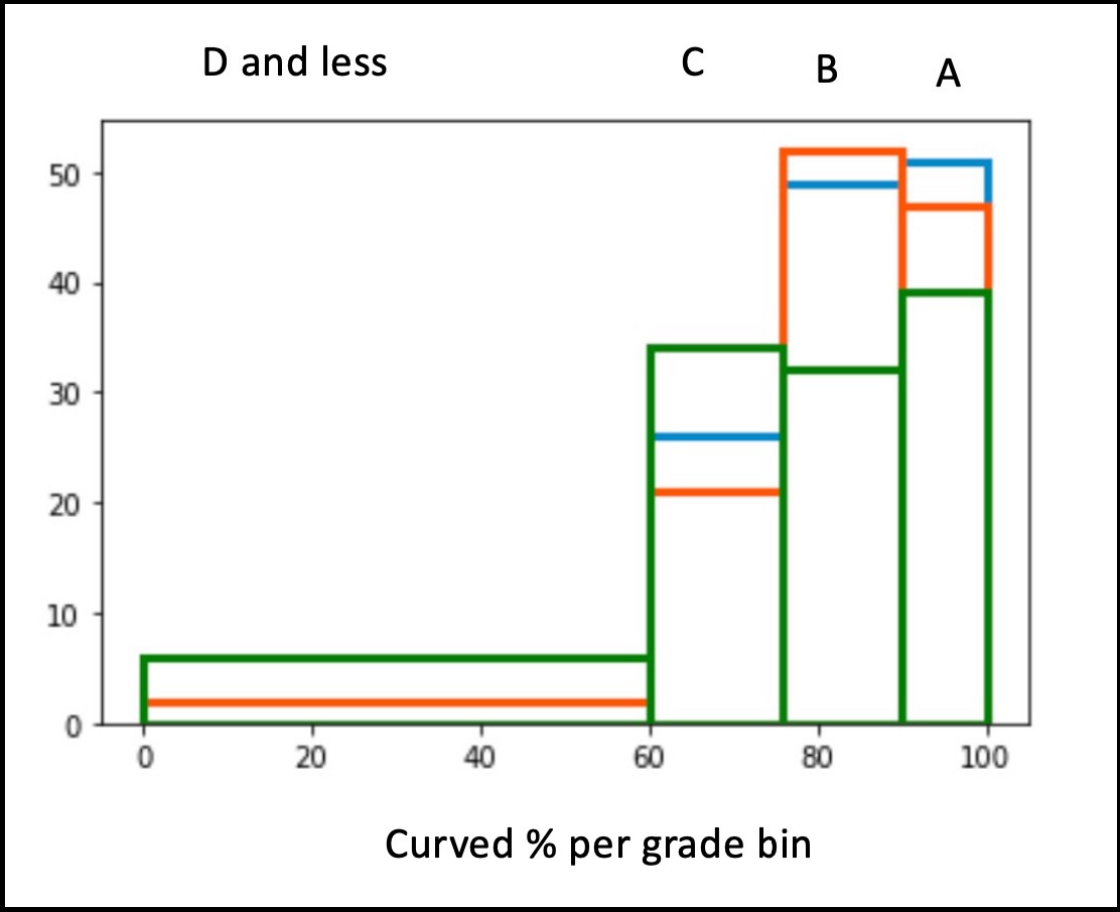




My goal



Predicting the future



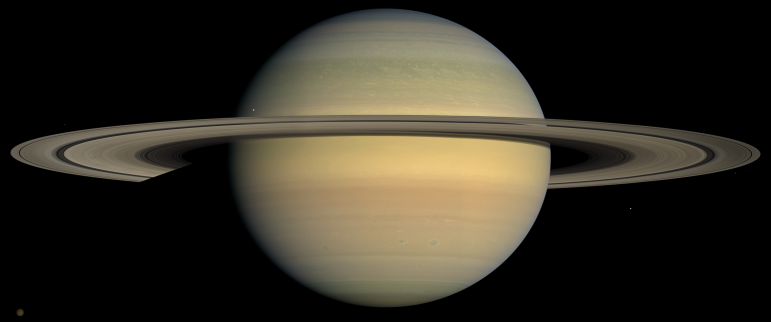
The Basics

- Office hours: Thursdays 11am via zoom class link.
- Textbook: *Foundations of Astronomy*, 14th Edition by Seeds & Backman
  ISBN 9780357113349
- Webiste: http://blackboard.usc.edu
  Check class blackboard frequently:
  - » Homework assignments
  - » Course materials (lecture pdfs posted regularly)
  - » Announcements

This semester

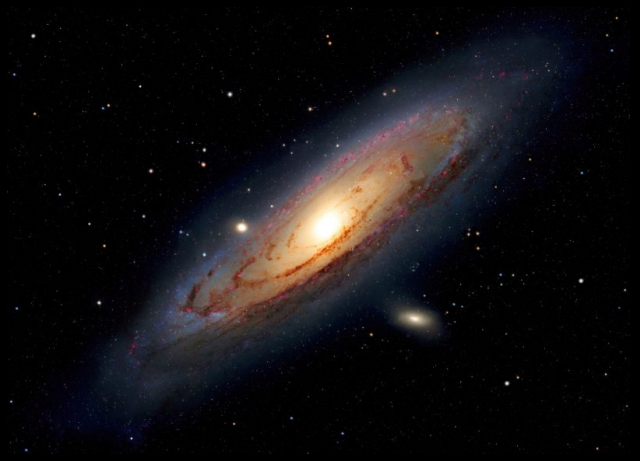
- You are expected to attend in person AND wear a mask while in classroom.
- This class is designed to be in-person, it is NOT a hybrid course.
- If you‘re feeling sick or test positive, please stay at home and reach out to me if you have questions about course materials.

Grading



- Homework 10% (400 points max, 600 possible)
- Midterms 40% (2 best out of 3, 3rd is makeup)
- Final Exam 30% (cumulative materials)
- Lab/observations 20% (mandatory)

- ✓ If you are taking the course Pass / No Pass, you must earn a minimum of 70%.
- ✓ You must pass the labs/observations with at least 70% score to pass the course.
- ✓ You must take the final exam and 2 midterms.



Homework

- There are 6 homeworks posted on Blackboard under Assignments, worth 100 points each.
- You can complete them any time before the deadline. Extensions are not granted and late homeworks yield zero points.
- But! You only need 2/3 of the points to get the maximum on homework grade: 400 points is max, there is 600 total available.

Labs

- Astronomy 100 has a **mandatory** laboratory component, and you should already be signed up for one of the laboratory sessions.
- **You must earn a passing grade (70%) in the labs to pass the course.**
- The Lab director Joseph Vandiver (Email: vandiver@usc.edu) manages labs and you should directly contact him if you have questions regarding labs or observations.

Exams

- Midterm #1:
  Thursday, February 10, in class.
- Midterm #2:
  Thursday, March 10, in class.
- Midterm #3:
  Thursday, April 14, in class.

- Final Exam
  Wednesday, May 11, 2-4pm

What is allowed?

- You are encouraged to discuss the homework and work in groups to understand the class material. However, your submitted assigment should represent your own understanding of the material.
- Collaboration, copying, or cheating on exams is strictly prohibited.
- An overview of the USC academic integrity policy:http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/forms/AcademicIntegrityOverview.pdf

Feedback

- email: vera.gluscevic@usc.edu

- General course feedback:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/17zOSZ_QXfmUWFNK-0LB2gxLJZLyh1JHGtJGMbUI6IaM/edit?usp=sharing

Course schedule (from Syllabus, on Blackboard)

Week	Material covered	Important dates
1	Chapter 1: Here and Now Chapter 2: A User's guide to the Sky	
2	Chapter 3: Moon Phases and Eclipses Chapter 4: Origins of Modern Astronomy	
3	Chapter 5: Gravity	Homework 1 due (Jan. 27)
4	Chapter 6: Light and Telescopes Chapter 7: Atoms and Spectra	Homework 2 due (Feb. 3)
5	Midterm 1	Midterm 1 (Feb. 10)
6	Chapter 18, Part I: Origin of the Solar System Chapter 19: Earth	
7	Chapter 20: The Moon, Mercury, and Venus Chapter 21: Mars	Homework 3 due (Feb. 24)
8	Chapter 22: Jupiter and Saturn Chapters 23, 24: Meteorites, Asteroids, and Comets	Homework 4 due (March 3)
9	Chapter 18, Part II: Extrasolar Planets Midterm 2	Midterm 2 (March 10)
10	SPRING BREAK	March 13-20
11	Chapter 8: The Sun Chapter 9: The Family of Stars	
12	Chapters 11, 12: The Formation, Structure, and Evolution of Stars Chapters 13, 14: The Deaths of Stars	Homework 5 due (March 31)
13	Chapters 15, 16: The Milky Way and other galaxies	Homework 6 due (Apr. 7)
14	Chapter 17: Modern Cosmology Midterm 3	Midterm 3 (Apr. 14)
15	Knowledge and the Universe, Part I Knowledge and the Universe, Part II	
16	Review for the final exam	
17	Final Exam	Final Exam (May 11, 2-4pm)

Your to-do for this week

- Fill out the First Day Questionnaire ASAP (Assignments on Blackboard).
- If you have OSAS accommodations, please forward me your accommodations letter.

Questions?

question for you

If I miss only the first half of the Labs, will this significantly affect my grade?

A. No, because Labs are only 20% of my final grade
B. Maybe. It depends on the rest of my scores
C. Yes, this will significantly lower my grade
D. This will result in failing the course

question for you

If I decide NOT to attend the lectures, how likely am I to get an A on this course?

A. I am likely to get an A if I can study independently
B. I am unlikely to get an A because I will miss out on in-class discussions, designed to help me prepare for the exams
C. I am unlikely to get an A because attendence counts towards my grade

question for you

If I miss a midterm, will this affect my grade?

A. Possibly.
B. Deffinitely.
C. No; I will have a chance to correct for this at the last midterm (make-up midterm).

question for you

I cannot make the final/midterm exam. Can I take the exam online?

A. Yes
B. Yes, but only if I ask in advance
C. No. It is against the university policy and the class policy to make such accommodations. Exam dates are set and cannot change at this time.