

# Astronomy 1115L Syllabus

Section: 501

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## Introduction

Hello and welcome to Astronomy 1115L. This course is taught solely online. I will post weekly videos that will cover the material in the lab. These videos will also include instructions and tips to completing the weekly lab. You will have that week to complete the lab assignment and the associated lab quiz at a time of your discretion. There will also be one Naked-Eye Observation Project where you will have to go outside and observe objects in the sky to complete the project. This Observation Lab may take a couple of weeks of observation time to complete, so I suggest you start on it as soon as I post it. The due dates for all of these assignments are shown below. I reserve the right to change/update this syllabus as needed and I will do my best to inform you of any changes that occur. I look forward to a productive semester and I will do my best to present the material in a clear, concise, and hopefully interesting manner.

## Textbook

There is not a textbook for this course. All of the materials will be provided for you online. You will need access to the night sky (observing project), but by no means do you have to get out of the city for this assignment. You will be observing objects that will be readily available, even for a well lit city area.

## Course Policies

- This class will be solely taught online. It will be up to you, the student, to complete all assignments before the due dates.
- No late lab assignment will be accepted. You will have one week to complete the lab assignment and lab quiz. Only under dire circumstances will I consider lab assignments to be turned in late and it must be supported with official documentation.
- Please be respectful of myself (Mr. Sanchez) and other students. No bullying of any kind will be tolerated.
- I am respectful to all races, genders, sexual orientations, gender identities, and religious beliefs. Please inform me if you self identify as anything other than the standard gender pronouns.
- Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Failure to comply with UNM/UNM Valencia policy on plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment, discussion post, quiz, exam, and/or final exam. Depending on the severity of the plagiarism, a formal complaint may be filed to the Dean of Students to determine if further action is needed. Please view and understand UNM's plagiarism guidelines by clicking [here](#).
- I will respond to emails within two days of receiving them. Most of the time I will respond sooner, but expect to see a response from me within two days.

- Students should let me know ahead of time if they will be out of town or otherwise unable to complete any assignments. Give me time so I can accommodate your situation to the best of my ability. That does not mean I will be accommodating (for example, if you are leaving early for spring break or just taking a “week off”), it just means communicate with me your plans so we can come to the best possible resolution.
- Covid-19: Please follow any local social distancing, mask wearing, hand-washing, and quarantine rules that are in place. We follow these rules not only to protect ourselves, but also everyone, especially those individuals that are at a higher risk of severe symptoms from this global pandemic.
- If at any point that I have failed to reasonably accommodate you or your situation, please reach out to me via email (jsanchez1819@unm.edu) and we can work together to solve the situation.
- Learning should be enjoyable. I will do my best to educate you on all things astronomy and make the course an interesting and enjoyable experience.

## Grading

**LABS 80%:** There will be 14 Labs that you will need to complete on your own during the week. They are designed to complete your understanding of the course material and to solidify your understanding of the mathematics and mechanics of astronomy.

**NAKED-EYE OBSERVATION PROJECT 10%:** There will be one naked-eye projects this semester. This project will require you to go outside and do some observations with your naked-eye. This project may span over a couple of days/weeks so start it early in case of inclement weather and other personal delays.

**QUIZZES 10%:** After each lab assignment there will be a short quiz that will assess your understanding of the material just presented. The quiz can be found on UNM Learn in the weekly lab folder. You will have one opportunity to complete the quiz and you will have 30 minutes to complete it.

### Grade Distinctions:

98-100 A+	93-97.99 A	90-92.99 A-
87-89.99 B+	83-86.99 B	80-82.99 B-
77-79.99 C+	73-76.99 C	70-72.99 C-
67-69.99 D+	63-66.99 D	60-62.99 D-
Below 60 F		

## Office Hours

Attending office hours will be the key to your success in this course. Office hours will be held on Microsoft Teams and the link is given at the beginning of this syllabus. I will gladly answer any questions you may have related to the assigned material. Please attend my office hours early and often.

## Learning Outcomes

The following are the learning outcomes for this course. These are taken directly from the New Mexico higher education department (NMHED). You can click [here](#) to find them on the NMHED’s website as well.

1. Students will discuss the night sky as seen from Earth, including coordinate systems, the apparent daily and yearly motions of the sun, Moon, and stars, and their resulting astronomical phenomena.
2. Students will list and apply the steps of the scientific method.
3. Students will describe the scale of the Solar System, Galaxy, and the Universe.

4. Students will explain telescope design and how telescopes and spectra are used to extract information about Astronomical objects.
5. Students will describe the formation scenarios and properties of solar system objects.
6. Students will describe gravity, electromagnetism, and other physical processes that determine the appearance of the universe and its constituents.
7. Students will describe methods by which planets are discovered around other stars and current results.
8. Students will describe the structure, energy generation, and activity of the sun.
9. Students will compare our sun to other stars and outline the evolution of stars of different masses and its end products, including black holes.
10. Students will describe the structure of the Milky Way and other galaxies and galaxy clusters.
11. Students will describe the origin, evolution, and expansion of the universe based on the Big Bang Theory and recent Astronomical observations.
12. Students will describe conditions for life, its origins, and possible locations in the universe.

## Students with Disabilities

Qualifying students with disabilities should contact me immediately so proper accommodations can be arranged. My faculty responsibilities include:

- Being open to accommodating students.
- Providing program access.
- Meeting with students to discuss their needs.
- Implementing reasonable accommodations.
- Maintaining confidentiality.

## Title IX Statement

Title IX prohibitions on sex discrimination include various forms of sexual misconduct, such as sexual assault, rape, sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, and stalking. Current UNM policy designates instructors as required reporters, which means that if I am notified (outside of classroom activities) about any Title IX violations, I must report this information to the Title IX coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted and would like to receive support and academic advocacy, there are numerous confidential routes available to you. For example, you can contact the Women's Resource Center, the LGBTQ Resource Center, Student Health and Counseling (SHAC), or LoboRESPECT. LoboRESPECT can be contacted on their 24-hour crisis line, (505) 277-2911 and online at [loborespect@unm.edu](mailto:loborespect@unm.edu). You can receive non-confidential support and learn more about Title IX through the Title IX Coordinator at (505) 277-5251 and <http://oeo.unm.edu/title-ix/>. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UNM Police Department at (505) 277-2241.

## Plagiarism

Please adhere to the following UNM Valencia Policy on Academic Dishonesty:

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

## Learning Center

Please take advantage of tutoring available from the Learning Center. Click [here](#) for more information. If you would like to request a tutoring appointment click [here](#) for the form that you have to fill out.

## Tips and Tricks to be Successful in this Class

- Login to UNM Learn daily and check your LoboMail daily as well. Make a habit of it.
- Watch the lab intro video and read the lab assignment in its entirety before you start answering questions.
- Don't forget to take the lab quiz *after* you complete the lab.
- Start the naked-eye observation lab early! A lot of times students will wait until the last moment and not have enough time to complete it.
- Come to office hours!
- Don't plagiarize! I'd rather you get a C or a D on an assignment rather than you getting an F and an email sent to the Dean of Students stating that you plagiarized/cheated.
- Read the syllabus. Re-read the syllabus. Read it again. Check the syllabus often for updates.
- Ask questions! Whether via email or office hours it is my job to instruct you. I can't help you if I don't know you need the help.

## Course Schedule

Please see the course schedule (calendar) on the following pages.

AUGUST  
2021  
ASTRONOMY 1115L

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	<i>First Day of Class</i>	23	24	25	26	27
	Lab 01/Quiz 01					
29	30	31				
Lab/Quiz 01 due	Lab/Quiz 02					

SEPTEMBER  
2021  
ASTRONOMY 1115L

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 <b>Lab/Quiz 02 due</b>	<i>Labor Day</i> <i>(campus closed)</i>  Lab/Quiz 03	7	8	9	<i>Last day to drop</i> <i>w/out a "W"</i>	11
12 <b>Lab/Quiz 03 due</b>	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 <b>Lab/Quiz 04 due</b>	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <b>Lab/Quiz 05 due</b>	27	28	29	30		
	Lab/Quiz 06					

OCTOBER  
2021  
ASTRONOMY 1115L

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 <b>Lab/Quiz 06 due</b>	4 Lab/Quiz 07	5	6	7	8	9
10 <b>Lab/Quiz 07 due</b>	11 Lab/Quiz 08	12	13	<i>Fall Break (no classes)</i>	<i>Fall Break (no classes)</i>	15 16
17 <b>Lab/Quiz 08 due</b>	18 Lab/Quiz 09	19	20	21	22	23
24 <b>Lab/Quiz 09 due</b>	25 Lab/Quiz 10	26	27	28	29	30
31 <b>Lab/Quiz 10 due</b>						

NOVEMBER  
2021  
ASTRONOMY 1115L

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Lab/Quiz 11					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Lab/Quiz 11 due	Lab/Quiz 12				<i>Last day to withdraw w/out permission</i>	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Lab/Quiz 12 due	Lab/Quiz 13					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Lab/Quiz 13 due	Lab/Quiz 14			<i>Thanksgiving Holiday (campus closed)</i>	<i>Thanksgiving Holiday (campus closed)</i>	
28	29	30				



DECEMBER  
2021  
ASTRONOMY 1115L

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1		2	3
					Lab/Quiz 14 due	4
5	Observation Lab due	6	7	8	9	10
						11
						<i>Last day of instruction</i>
12	<i>FINALS WEEK</i>	13	<i>FINALS WEEK</i>	14	<i>FINALS WEEK</i>	15
16	<i>FINALS WEEK</i>	17	<i>FINALS WEEK</i>	18	<i>FINALS WEEK</i>	19
20		21	22	23	24	25
26		27	28	29	30	31