



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII\*

**WINDWARD**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## **ASTR 110 SURVEY OF ASTRONOMY**

**CRN = 61279 3 Credits**

**Term Dates - 16 October to 8 December 2023**

**Asynchronous Online Course – Check in Daily**

<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	Sean P. Moroney, Ph.D.	
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	WCC CAMPUS - Imiloa 112B	TBD
	ONLINE – Lulima / Zoom	Saturday 6:00 – 6:55 PM
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	(808) 236-9117	<b>EMAIL:</b> moroney@hawaii.edu
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	Fall 2023	

### **WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT**

*Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai'i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide Ko'olau region of O'ahu and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring Students to excellence.*

### **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Introduction to the astronomical universe for non-science majors.

**Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times**

No additional activities

### **PREREQUISITES**

There are no prerequisites for this course.

### **ONLINE ACCESS**

This course may be found at [lulima.hawaii.edu](http://lulima.hawaii.edu).

### **ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION**

Checking in regularly and interacting with the Instructor and the class is expected. A number of our Assignments require some level of interaction with the Instructor and with other class members. It will be important to observe the Due Dates for the course. A steady progress forward will get us all successfully to the goal.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Announcements Section in Laulima is a critically important Section for the transmission of information about the course.

The Announcements should be checked frequently.

Announcements will appear when an Assignment first becomes available; Announcements will also appear as reminders of an impending Due Date. They will also function to give important messages about the function and structure of the Course, and of any changes thereto.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Student Learning Outcomes for the course are:

1. Outline the development of astronomy from ancient times to present and explain the role of the scientific method in this historical context.
2. Describe and explain the apparent motions of the celestial bodies, especially as related to naked-eye observations.
3. Identify the appropriate instruments used by astronomers to understand the universe.
4. Outline the origins of our solar system and appraise the leading cosmological theories of the origin of the universe.
5. Describe the physical and chemical properties of the objects in our solar system and apply the concept of comparative planetology.
6. Describe the physical and chemical nature of stars, and especially our sun, and apply the astronomical techniques used to measure stellar properties.
7. Outline the evolutionary stages in a star's life and compare and contrast the structure of our Milky Way and other galaxies.
8. Apply astronomical concepts to the search for extraterrestrial life.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

### Textbook:

Astronomy by Fraknoi, Morrison, and Wolf. Openstax/Rice University (2017).

Here is a direct link to the textbook: <https://openstax.org/details/books/astronomy>

You can access the free online, phone app, and PDF formats of Openstax books by following these steps:

1. Go to <https://openstax.org/subjects>
2. Click on the cover of the book you would like to view. This will take you to its Details page
3. Under the **Get the book** heading on the left, select the format you would like to use. It's that easy!

In addition to our free formats, we also provide low-cost print copies for all our books.

Individual orders can be placed through [Amazon](#), and bookstores can order through our [partnered suppliers](#).

**Course Laulima site:**

**www.laulima.hawaii.edu:** It is here that the course comes alive. Explore this site and ask questions about its features.

**Course Videos:**

Videos explaining the structure of the Course, including the Topics listed here in the Syllabus, may be found in the Course Videos folder in the Resources folder in the Left Menu in Laulima.

**COMMUNICATION**

Students are expected to attend class regularly, to participate in class discussions, and to stay current with the course material. They are also expected to behave politely, respectfully, and professionally while communicating with their peers and with the Instructor in online discussions, email, video conferencing, and in other forms of interactions. The UH Internet Etiquette (i.e., “Netiquette”) is available for review in Laulima / Resources / Course Docs.

**OTHER CENTRALIZED COURSE INFORMATION**

Information on many other aspects of this course may be found in the various documents in Laulima’s Left Menu / Resources / Course Docs. All of this information is considered as an extension of this Syllabus.

**COURSE MODULES**

The course is structurally divided into 4 Modules, each of which has a 2-week window within which various Course Tasks are to be carried out and completed. The Course Calendar below identifies and describes those time segments.

**MODULE 1 - 16 OCTOBER TO 29 OCTOBER 2023**

Here we cover the basic introductory topics. These include the overall view of the universe as it stretches through space and time, the development through time of the advances in our understanding of the things in the sky, the local phenomena we see from our perspective on a moving platform (Earth) within the solar system, the understanding of the types of radiation that inform us about the cosmos, and the technology that lets us actually detect interesting phenomena in deep space. We conclude with a coverage of the types of planets in our solar system and give an overview of its origin

We then discuss the origin of the solar system. (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5)

**MODULE 1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES (MLOs):**

Upon completion of this Module, the Student will be able to:

- 1.1 - Discuss the spatial dimensions and the age of the universe.
- 1.2 - Identify the motions of the Earth and of the Sun, the stars, and all the galaxies.
- 1.3- Describe the development of Astronomy from ancient days through to the present.
- 1.4 - Explain the ordinary celestial and terrestrial phenomena of day and night, the seasons, and the motions of the Moon and the planets, both as the ancients saw them and as we see them today.

- 1.5 - Discuss the various components of the electromagnetic spectrum and identify how these radiations relate to physical phenomena in deep space.
- 1.6 - Compare and contrast the types of modern telescopes and how they work together to give us a deeper understanding of celestial phenomena.
- 1.7 - Describe how the Solar System formed according to the Nebular Theory.

## **MODULE 2 - 30 OCTOBER TO 12 NOVEMBER 2023**

The various planetary and satellite bodies of the Solar System, including Earth, are reviewed in detail. The current state of our knowledge of the terrestrial planets, the jovian planets, and their moons is examined. The comets, asteroids, and meteorites in our Solar System are examined. The recent discoveries of other solar systems and of the varieties of planets orbiting distant stars is discussed. (SLOs 4, 5, & 6)

The measurement of the stellar distances and the contents of the space between the stars is investigated. The birth and aging of different types of stars is discussed. The end-stages of low- and high-mass stars (white dwarfs, neutron stars, and black holes) are then explored. (SLOs 6 & 7)

### **MODULE 2 LEARNING OBJECTIVES (MLOs):**

Upon completion of this Module, the Student will be able to:

- 2.1 - Describe Earth as a planet, explaining its various properties.
- 2.2 - Describe the other worlds of the inner Solar System - Mercury, Venus, Mars, and the Moon.
- 2.3 - Explain the differences of the jovian planets when compared with the terrestrial worlds.
- 2.4 - Describe the rings of the jovian planets, the differences among their many moons, and the orbiting body known as Pluto.
- 2.5 - Discuss the differences between asteroids and comets and how these compare with meteorites.
- 2.6 - Integrate what has been learned so far into the current theory of how the Solar System formed.

## **MODULE 3 - 13 NOVEMBER TO 26 NOVEMBER 2023**

We then focus on the nearest star, our Sun; the other types of stars are compared and contrasted with it. The properties of stars of all types are reviewed. The H-R Diagram is introduced both as a tool for cataloging star types and as a way of displaying their evolutionary development. The measurement of the stellar distances and the contents of the space between the stars is investigated. The birth and aging of different types of stars is discussed. (SLOs 6 & 7)

### **MODULE 3 LEARNING OBJECTIVES (MLOs):**

Upon completion of this Module, the Student will be able to:

- 3.1 - Describe the Sun, its cyclical activity, and its internal structure and composition.
- 3.2 - Explain the process of energy generation in the Sun by nuclear fusion.
- 3.3 - Explain how a star's absolute luminosity and temperature are measured and how its size and motion may be determined.
- 3.4 - Demonstrate how the H-R Diagram classifies the stellar population.
- 3.5 - Describe the process of determining the distances to the stars.
- 3.6 - Describe the nature of the material that occupies the space between the stars.

- 3.7 - Describe the process of star formation.
- 3.8 - Explain the differences between our Solar System and the recently discovered Solar Systems around other stars.
- 3.9 - Describe the changes in a star's characteristics with time, as shown on the H-R Diagram.
- 3.10 - Explain the differences between the events leading to the death stages of low-mass and high-mass stars.

## **MODULE 4 - 27 NOVEMBER TO 10 DECEMBER 2023**

The end-stages of low- and high-mass stars (white dwarfs, neutron stars, and black holes) are then explored. Galaxies, both the Milky Way Galaxy in which we are located and other types that we have measured, are examined. Their distances, along with their implications, are reviewed. The cosmology of the Big Bang, along with the current topics of dark matter and dark energy, are examined. We conclude with a discussion of life in the cosmos. (SLOs 4, 7, & 8)

### **MODULE 5 LEARNING OBJECTIVES (MLOs):**

Upon completion of this Module, the Student will be able to:

- 4.1 - Compare and contrast the formation and properties of neutron stars and black holes.
- 4.2 - Describe the structure of the Milky Way Galaxy.
- 4.3 - Identify the different types of galaxies.
- 4.4 - Explain how the distances to galaxies is determined.
- 4.5 - Describe the nature of quasars.
- 4.6 - Describe the distribution of galaxies within the universe.
- 4.7 - Describe the evidence for the existence of dark matter.
- 4.8 - Describe the evidence in favor of the Big Bang Theory.
- 4.9 - Explain the overall process of the Big Bang and how it resulted in today's universe.
- 4.10 - Explain how dark energy is exerting its effects on the universe.
- 4.11 - Discuss the possibilities of life elsewhere in the universe.

## **COURSE TASKS**

The Course Tasks (also called Assignments) described here rely considerably upon active involvement and participation by all course members. Student interactions with each other and with the Instructor greatly assist the learning in this course.

The availability of each Course Task will be made known by an Announcement (visible in Laulima), which will also be emailed. Three days before a Course Task is Due, an Announcement to that effect will be posted and emailed.

Further details on all these Course Tasks will be by the Announced placement of labeled documents in the Course Docs section of the Left Menu.

In all Course Tasks, submissions will be inspected for errors or flaws in spelling, grammar, and sentence structure. If necessary, it will be useful to have someone with good language skills to function as a Proofreader for each Assignment.

- **First Week Introductions (FWI) 1% of the Course Grade (as Extra Credit)**
  - This is a mandatory Assignment required by the WCC Administration. The purpose of this Assignment is to determine whether or not Students are participating in the Course.
  - By 23 October 2023, the postings should be all complete. WCC has linked any absence of postings or responses here to the possibility of being disenrolled from the course.
  - In the first nine days of the Course, each Student is to post, in the appropriate Forum, complete Answers to five introductory Questions. The Answers will not be graded for content; they will only be graded as to whether they are done or not done.
  - Each Student should then review the postings of the other Students and should then reply, abiding by the Netiquette protocols posted on the Course website, to a minimum of two (2) of the fellow Students.
  - Out of 100 points, the initial posting, if complete, is worth 70 points. Each reply, to a maximum of 2, is worth 15 points. Additional replies are welcome, since this builds a camaraderie and facilitates teamwork.
  
- **Project (25% of the Course Grade)**
  - There will be one (1) Project during the term. This will count as a summative assessment for this course and may be thought of as its Final Exam.
  - The Project Stages will have sequential Due Dates that are, in general, independent of the 4-Module Schedule. Please consult the Course Calendars at the end of the Syllabus.
  - Basic Project Instructions are available for both Project Topics and both Project Reports in their Text Headers in the Assignments Section of the Left Menu. A more complete set of Project Instructions, titled "Astro-Project Guidelines", covering Topics, Drafts, and Final Reports, is available in Laulima's Left Menu / Resources / Course Docs.
  - Announcements will guide the student in the preparation and submission of the Topics, the Drafts, and the Final Report.
  - The Topic selected for the Project Report must be submitted for approval by its posted Due Dates. Please see the Topic Text Boxes and the Project Course Docs for further guidance.
  - The Instructor may make helpful recommendations on narrowing the scope of, modifying, or completely changing any selected Topic. This will be done in the interests of having the Project be both manageable and meaningful.
  - The Topic selection is valued at 10 points of the 100 points for its Project. A Topic may be resubmitted continuously until the end of its Grace Period until it is approved. After the Grace Period, there will be no points available for the Topic; however, a Topic must be submitted and accepted in order for a Draft and a Final Report to be submitted.
  - Once a Topic is selected, work should begin on the crafting of the Final Report. This work will include the construction of a Draft, or series of Drafts. This will require the assemblage of information about the Topic, the collection of references and images elaborating on the Topic, and, ultimately, the generation of a Final version of the Draft – the Project Report.
  - The Draft stage is valued as 35 of the 100 points of the Project Assignment. The Final Project Report is valued as 55 points of the 100 points for the Project Assignment.
  - The SLOs for each Module apply to these Assignments.

- **Cosmic News Articles (CN-A) (5% of the Course Grade):**

- During each of the four (4) Modules, in Forums set up for this purpose, Students will present and discuss recent Cosmic News Articles on Astronomical Current Events related to the current Modules, from web-based internet sources.
- Students are to explore the current Astronomical News Media for related topics of interest, looking for relevant News Articles with a single common theme or subject matter. They will read them carefully, making notes to help integrate their contents. Finally, they will compose and post thoughtful summaries in a Cosmic News Report. The Posting Area will be defined later.
- The Articles chosen must be related to the same topic. Topics must have foci that are neither too broad or too narrow. A topic like “Mars” is too large and ill-defined; a topic like “The Polar Ice Caps of Mars” is much more suitable.
- No two Students may use the same Article; it’s first-come, first-served on the Articles. The reason for this request for uniqueness is to avoid repetition among the submitted CN-Rs. We are exploring the possibility of having a Gallery where these CN-Rs can be viewed and read by all.
- Articles are claimed for individual use by submitting the choice of the single Topic in an email to the Instructor, along with the attached list of Articles.
- The first step is to locate at least 2, but no more than 4, Cosmic News Articles of interest on a single topic and then to lay claim to them.
- The Instructor will provide Online sources of Articles; Students may discover and use others on their own.
- Basic instructions on doing these Cosmic News assignments are available in the Text Headers of each Assignment. Additional information is also available in the Left Menu / Resources / Course Docs.
- Once submitted, the Instructor will then review the Topic and Articles for uniqueness, significance, and relevance; once approved, the CN-A score will be entered, and the Student can then move on to preparing the Report.
- If a CN-A is not submitted, a CN-R from the same Student cannot be accepted. If the Student submits the CN-A after the Grace Period has ended, the Instructor is free to accept the CN-A if it is of sufficient quality; however, the CN-A grade, but not the CN-R grade, will no longer be available.
- The CN-A assignment is worth 10 of the 100 points for the full CN-(A+R) assignment; the CN-A score amounts to 5% of the Course Grade.
- The Grace Period here is the 3 days following the Articles’ Due Date; the Lateness Deduction is 5% per day, or fraction thereof.
- After the Grace Period ends, all of the postings will continue to be visible; no new postings may be accepted after the end of the Grace Period.
- There will be four (4) CN-A assignments in total.
- The **best 3 of the 4 CN-A scores** will be counted toward the Final Grade.
- The SLOs for each Module apply to these Assignments.

- **Cosmic News Reports (CN-R) (20% of the Course Grade):**

- After reviewing the Cosmic News Articles, the Students' second step is to compose a summary of the Articles and then to prepare the Cosmic News Report.
- The CN-R must be factual and must adhere to Science; but it may conclude with the Student's own insights (clearly labeled as such) into the importance and relevance of the Articles. It should also connect with information being covered currently in the course.
- The Grace Period here is the 3 days following the Report Due Date; the Lateness Deduction is 5% per day, or fraction thereof.
- The Grade given for each Assignment will depend on the depth and breadth of the Report and on any subsequent discussions, with minimalist postings getting lower grades and well-thought-out postings getting higher grades.
- Grammar and spelling are quite important. It will be useful to have someone with good language skills function as a proofreader for each Assignment before its submission. The Instructor will not act as a proofreader.
- The Report is worth 90 of the 100 points for the full CN-(A+R) assignment; this amounts to 9% of the Course Grade.
- There will be four (4) CN-R assignments in total.
- The **best 3 of the 4 CN-R scores** will be counted toward the Final Grade.
- The SLOs for each Module apply to these Assignments.

- **Ask the Professor (AskP) (10% of the Course Grade)**

- In each Module, in a Forum set up for this purpose, each Student will be asked to pose a Questions on Module-related topics, which the Instructor will then explore in some detail.
- Basic AskP Instructions are available for the AskPs in their Text Headers in the Assignments Section of the Left Menu. There is also a document on the AskS and the AskP Assignments in the Resources / Course Docs folder.
- The Questions asked must be thought-provoking Questions, exploring the information, and the implications thereof, presented in the Module.
- Thought-provoking Questions do not include asking for the Instructor's opinions or beliefs on any subject. Such Questions will be set aside and will receive the grade of 0.
- Questions may be corrected and resubmitted. The most recently asked Question will be the one graded. Please review the wording of any Question posed. A maximum of three (3) resubmissions is possible for any AskP Assignment.
- Unacceptable Questions are those which require simply looking up the answer in the text or online; these Questions will earn the grade of zero (0).
- There must be some depth to any Question asked. The Questions asked must make sense and must not contain errors in the Science. Improper spelling, grammar, and/or sentence structure can disqualify a Question. If a Question is rejected, it may be reworked and resubmitted for credit without penalty, except for any relevant Lateness Deduction. If a Question is rejected and not resubmitted, its grade will be zero (0).



- The Grade given for an accepted Question will depend on the quality of the Question, with a trivial Question getting a lower grade and a profound thought-provoking Question getting a higher grade.
  - Follow-up Questions from the same Student and/or from different Students are welcome.
  - After a Module closes out, the Questions asked, along with their Answers, will continue to be visible; no new Questions may be posted after that time.
  - There will be four (4) AskP assignments in total.
  - The **best 3 of the 4 AskP scores** will be counted toward the final grade.
  - The SLOs for each Module apply to these Assignments.
- **Ask the Student (AskS) (10% of the Course Grade)**
    - In each Module, in a Forum set up for this purpose, the Instructor will pose one or more thought-provoking Questions on subject matter relevant to the current Module.
    - The Questions may have parts; each Question-part must be answered fully. Students are expected to explore these topics in some detail and then to post considered and thoughtful responses.
    - Basic AskS Instructions are available for the AskSs in their Text Headers in the Assignments Section of the Left Menu. There is also a document on the AskS and the AskP Assignments in the Resources / Course Docs folder.
    - Students must copy the Question block into the Answer space and compose each Answer directly beneath its Question. This facilitates the grading process. If the Questions are not included with their Answers, there will be a request to resubmit; a temporary grade of zero (0) will be applied. This will be corrected with a proper resubmission.
    - Answers previously posted will not be visible to an answering Student until that Student submits his/her own Answer.
    - Answers to the Questions must be given in short essays of an appropriate length. The Answers should go into sufficient depth and may bring in related ideas and information from current Astronomical News items or from other sources. Answers should include a Reference Section if information was drawn from an outside source.
    - Grades given for the Answers will depend on the Answer quality, with minimalist Answers getting lower grades and well-thought-out Answers getting higher grades.
    - In addition, each Student must offer a critique to two (2) Answers from fellow Students. All critiques must have an objective basis in the Science.
    - Critiques may be positive (adding in supporting information) or negative (pointing out or correcting errors). The existence of errors in an Answer being critiqued must not be ignored; the critique should be helpful in pointing out errors if any such exist.
    - Critiques must be substantive and must add to the knowledge base being built in the class. While compliments, and like comments, are acceptable, they will not count toward the Assignment Grade. A critique that is purely complimentary or that just repeats what has just been said is, informationally, empty and will earn a grade of zero (0).
    - **The rules and behavior of Netiquette are to be observed at all times in all our online interactions.**

- For additional detail on the full procedure here, please review the document, The AskS and AskP Assignments, found in Laulima's Left Menu under Resources / Course Docs.
  - There will be four (4) AskS assignments in total.
  - The **best 3 of the 4 AskS scores** will be counted toward the final grade.
  - The SLOs for each Module apply to these Assignments.
- **Module Tests (MTs) (25% of the Course Grade)**
    - Four (4) Tests, taken online through Laulima, will take place at approximately 2-week intervals. Each MT will cover all of the Chapters/Sections in one of the four Modules of the course.
    - Basic MT Instructions are available for the MTs in their Text Headers in the Assignments, Tests, and Surveys Section of the Left Menu.
    - Each MT will consist of 50 questions, randomly selected from a pool of Multiple-Choice and True/False questions.
    - The time allowed for each MT will be 90 minutes. Once the MT is opened, it may not be paused or cancelled.
    - Three (3) attempts at each MT will be permitted. The best score of the three will be the one recorded.
    - The **best 3 of the 4 MT scores** will be counted toward the final grade.
    - The SLOs for each Module apply to these Assignments.
- **Weekly Reflections (WRs) (5% of the Course Grade)**
    - There is a lot of interesting information in the news from space in this era.
    - In the WR assignments, we'll be sharing the things we thought were most stunning about what the class has covered and what the world's news has brought in.
    - Basic WR Instructions are available for the WRs in their Text Headers in the Assignments Section of the Left Menu.
    - In a short paragraph, let us all know what new facts and insights you thought most remarkable. Then comment on the thoughts of two of your fellows.
    - Each WR is counted as worth 20 points. The initial posting will be worth a maximum of 14 points. The two (2) related comments are worth 3 points each. Other comments on the thoughts of other of your fellows are welcome and will add to the dialogue.
    - The **best 7 of the 8 WR scores** will be counted toward the final grade.
    - The SLOs for each Module apply to these Assignments.

## GRADING OF COURSE TASKS

The course grade will be computed as follows:

Assignment	Number	Max. Score
<i>First Week Introductions</i>	<i>1 (Extra Credit)</i>	<i>1%</i>
Project	1	25%
Cosmic News	Best 3 of 4 (Drop 1)	20%
Ask the Professor	Best 13 of 15 (Drop 2)	12%
Ask the Student	Best 13 of 15 (Drop 2)	12%
Module Tests	Best 3 of 4 (Drop 1)	25%
Weekly Reflections	15 (Drop 2)	6%
Total =		100%

Course work submitted after specified Due Dates will be subject to a Lateness Deduction, which will generally be 5% per calendar day late, or fraction thereof, after the Due Date. Lateness Deductions may be excused for a valid documented reasons.

Assignment Grading will be completed within one week after the Due Date for that Assignment.

If a Grade is disputed, that dispute must be originated within two (2) weeks after the Due Date.

## GRADING SCALE

The final letter grade will be based on the total percentage that the Student has earned from all the course tasks. Each letter grade and its respective level of achievement is provided in the following table:

Letter Grade	Definition
A	90% - 100% of cumulative points possible
B	80% - 89.99% of cumulative points possible
C	65% - 79.99% of cumulative points possible
D	50% - 64.99% of cumulative points possible
F	below 50% of cumulative points possible

Computed grades will not be rounded up.

Other grades may be assigned as listed in the WCC Catalog.

## **DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Accessibility Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Roy Inouye can be reached at (808) 235-7448, [royinouye@hawaii.edu](mailto:royinouye@hawaii.edu), or you may stop by Hale Kāko'o 106 for more information.

## **SEX DISCRIMINATION / GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES (TITLE IX)**

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Jojo Miller, Confidential Advocate  
Phone: (808) 348-0663  
Email: [advocate@hawaii.edu](mailto:advocate@hawaii.edu)  
Office: Hale Kaka'o 110

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource  
Phone: (808) 235-7393  
Email: [dkahale3@hawaii.edu](mailto:dkahale3@hawaii.edu)  
Office: Hale Kāko'o 101

Karla K. Silva-Park, Title IX Coordinator  
Phone: (808) 235-7468  
Email: [karlas@hawaii.edu](mailto:karlas@hawaii.edu)  
Office: Hale 'Ākoakoa 220

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University's Title IX resources and the University's Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to [manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/](http://manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/)

## ***INCOMPLETE GRADE PROCEDURE***

Incomplete grades are reserved for cases of illnesses and other emergencies (verifiable and documented) that cause a Student to be unable to complete the course by the Last Day of Instruction. In such cases, the instructor has the option of issuing an "Incomplete" grade at the end of the semester. Requests for an "Incomplete" must be accompanied, in a timely manner, by substantive documentation. The Instructor must be notified of such issues in the shortest possible time; requests for an Incomplete grade must be made before the course is completed.

If granted, the "Incomplete" grade will then require a written agreement between the instructor and the Student clearly defining the remaining course requirements and the time frame within which they are to be completed. The College will review "I" grades six months subsequent to posting. Unresolved "I" grades will be converted to "F" grades subsequent to the review.

Be aware that active duty military can be charged for tuition for not completing a course as soon as 90 days after the end of the course if the "I" is not changed to a passing grade. Therefore, completing the course in a timely manner is prudent.

## ***ACADEMIC INTEGRITY***

Work submitted by a Student must be the Student's own work. The work of others should be explicitly marked, such as through use of quotes or summarizing with reference to the original author.

In this class, Students who commit academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism will have the following consequence(s):

- Students will receive a failing grade for plagiarized assignments.
- All cases of academic dishonesty are referred to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

## ***ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION***

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

- Location: Alaka'i 121
- Phone: (808) 235-7422

## ***ADDITIONAL INFORMATION***

### **Instructor Bio - Sean Moroney, PhD**

I've had a life-long interest in the sciences, with Physics as a particular favorite. I've taken a BS in Physics, a MS in Physics, and a PhD in Engineering Mechanics, with a specialty in Biomechanics. Astronomy, as exemplified in all of our space-age discoveries, has been a source of continued wonderment as everyone learns more and more about the Cosmos we are in.

## **Work Submitted Late**

Work submitted after the Due Date will receive a Lateness Deduction of 5% per calendar day (or fraction thereof) for each day late. This will happen during the Grace Period which begins directly after the Due Date is past. Grace Periods are variable in length and tend to be no more than three (3) days in duration. If there are extenuating circumstances that can be documented, the Lateness Deductions may be waived, in whole or in part; however, the Instructor must be notified about the circumstances in the shortest possible time.

## **Missed Work**

Generally, work not submitted will receive the grade of zero (0). It is the Student's responsibility to stay current with all the Assignments and to keep track of upcoming Due Dates; the Due Date Calendar, found in *Laulima* / Resources / Calendars is a useful aid in this regard.

If there is a verifiable and documentable reason for the required work not being submitted, there may be a possibility that some accommodations can be made. Please see the Section below on Extenuating Circumstances.

## **Extenuating Circumstances**

Life occasionally throws curves which can disrupt a Student's orderly progress through the Course. If such a case occurs, the Instructor must be contacted, without delay, as soon as is practicable, so that accommodations can be made. Documentation will be requested to support the actions taken.

The Student and the Instructor will then discuss what steps are to be taken to get the affected Assignments completed and what that schedule will have to be. If an overly long time period has passed in which a sizable amount of coursework is not submitted, it may not be possible for more than a small fraction of that work to be eligible for completion.

## **Extra Credit**

Extra Credit is not generally offered in this course. However, a small number of the lowest-graded assignments in most of the categories will be removed from the pool of scores contributing to the Final Grade. This will happen at the end of the term.

# ***TECH SUPPORT SERVICES***

## **Course Technology:**

Learning Management System utilized by this course is [Laulima](#), accessible from the [WCC main web site](#), under "Services for Students" tab.

## **Hardware and Software Expectations:**

Students should be comfortable operating a computer browser, such as Mozilla Firefox or Safari, using email, downloading and uploading files. In addition, Students should be comfortable using Adobe Acrobat Reader ([download the free software here](#)) and basics programs within Microsoft Office package (Word, Excel and PowerPoint). Microsoft Office can be obtained via University of Hawai'i's [Information Technology Services](#). In addition, Students should make sure they have the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.

**It is recommended that you:**

- Use a more recent model desktop or laptop (2014 or later), either Windows or Mac.
- Have access to reliable high-speed Internet connection.
- Use Mozilla Firefox as your web browser, as Lualima is designed to work best with it. Note: that we do not recommend using Internet Explorer for submitting work or taking tests in Lualima.
- Depending on your browser settings, PDF files may open in a new window or tab or automatically download to your download folder

**Other technical support:**

University of Hawai'i's [Information Technology Services Help Desk](#) is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays) either via email ([help@hawaii.edu](mailto:help@hawaii.edu)) or by phone (808-956-2669).

**Accessibility at UH and software accessibility information:**

University of Hawai'i's accessibility policies and services are available at the following link: [Accessibility at UH](#).

To access the accessibility information for each software used in the course, follow the links below:

- [Macintosh Accessibility Info](#)
- [Mozilla Firefox Accessibility Info](#)
- [Microsoft Office Accessibility Info](#)
- [Adobe Acrobat Reader Accessibility Info](#)

**ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES****Tutorial services**

Tutorial services are offered free of charge and are open to all WCC Students currently enrolled. Tutoring may be long-term, short-term, or single visit, depending upon the needs of the Student. To sign up for a tutor, refer to one of the many programs listed below:

- **Tutor.com:** The University of Hawaii Community Colleges offers free online, on-demand tutoring, through [Tutor.com](#).
- **TRiO Student Support Services (TRiO SSS):** The purpose of [TRiO SSS](#) is to provide services (everything from tutoring to filing taxes to financial aid and food) and to foster an institutional climate supportive of the success of low-income, first-generation, and/or disabled college Students.
- **Ho'onui Ike:** [Ho'onui Ike](#) is an academic assistance program that utilizes peer-assisted study and coaching sessions.
- **Ka Piko Student Success Services:** [Ka Piko Student Success Services](#) are free to all WCC Students and consist of the following resources (please follow the links below for more information):
  - [Math Lab](#)
  - [Writing Center](#)
  - [Speech Lab](#)
  - [Supplemental Instruction](#) (SI)
  - [Peer Mentoring Center](#)

**Other Student services**

- [WCC Library](#), located in Hale La'akea, provides access to printed and digital books, periodicals, articles and more. In addition, it provides access to video and audio resources, as well as computers, individual and group study areas and rooms.
- [WCC Bookstore](#): textbooks, computers, software, food items and more can be purchased here.
- [Testing Center](#) (located in Hale La'akea) provides test proctoring services for placement tests, distance education online and written tests and make-up tests for campus courses.
- WCC [Counseling and Advising](#) department, located in Hale 'Ākoakoa 212, is comprised of college counselors, faculty and support staff who work to support Students' personal and academic growth and development.
- WCC [Mental Health and Wellness](#) provides a range of counseling services and activities on campus to support Students' life goals and academic goals.
- [Disabilities Services](#), located in Hale La'akea 232, provides information and services to Students with disabilities in order to perform functions that might otherwise be difficult or impossible. Testing and academic accommodations can include the following: tape recorded material, note takers, use of adaptive equipment and more.

***COURSE DOCS IN LAULIMA***

**The Course Docs Section in the Resources Section of the Left Menu in Laulima is another critically important Section that contains necessary information about the Assignments and other aspects of the Course.**

**The Course Docs Section should be reviewed carefully in the early Weeks of the Course.**



## CALENDARS OF DUE DATES

### PROJECT

Project	Available from	Due Date	Grace Period
Project Topic	16 October	<b>29 October</b>	1 November
Project Draft	16 October	<b>19 November</b>	22 November
Project Report	16 October	<b>10 December</b>	12 December

### ASK THE STUDENT/PROFESSOR (ASK-S/ASK-P)

AskS & AskP				
MODULE	ASK	OPEN	DUE	CLOSE
1	1	16 Oct	<b>22 Oct</b>	25 Oct
	2	23 Oct	<b>29 Oct</b>	1 Nov
2	3	30 Oct	<b>5 Nov</b>	8 Nov
	4	6 Nov	<b>12 Nov</b>	15 Nov
3	5	13 Nov	<b>19 Nov</b>	22 Nov
	6	20 Nov	<b>26 Nov</b>	29 Nov
4	9	27 Nov	<b>3 Dec</b>	6 Dec
	10	4 Dec	<b>10 Dec</b>	12 Dec

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### COSMIC NEWS - ARTICLES (CN-As)

#	FROM	DUE	CLOSE
<b>01</b>	16 Oct	<b>22 Oct</b>	25 Oct
<b>02</b>	30 Oct	<b>5 Nov</b>	8 Nov
<b>03</b>	13 Nov	<b>19 Nov</b>	22 Nov
<b>04</b>	27 Nov	<b>3 Dec</b>	6 Dec

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### COSMIC NEWS - REPORTS (CN-Rs)

#	FROM	DUE	CLOSE
<b>01</b>	16 Oct	<b>29 Oct</b>	1 Nov
<b>02</b>	30 Oct	<b>12 Nov</b>	15 Nov
<b>03</b>	13 Nov	<b>26 Nov</b>	29 Nov
<b>04</b>	27 Nov	<b>10 Dec</b>	12 Dec

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### MODULE TESTS (MTs)

Module Test	Available from	Due Date	Available until
1	26 Oct	31 Oct	3 Nov
2	9 Nov	14 Nov	17 Nov
3	23 Nov	28 Nov	1 Dec
4	6 Dec	10 Dec	12 Dec

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### WEEKLY REFLECTIONS (WRs)

WEEK	FROM	DUE	CLOSE
<b>01</b>	20 Oct	<b>22 Oct</b>	23 Oct
<b>02</b>	27 Oct	<b>29 Oct</b>	30 Oct
<b>03</b>	3 Nov	<b>5 Nov</b>	6 Nov
<b>04</b>	10 Nov	<b>12 Nov</b>	13 Nov
<b>05</b>	17 Nov	<b>19 Nov</b>	20 Nov
<b>06</b>	24 Nov	<b>26 Nov</b>	27 Nov
<b>07</b>	1 Dec	<b>3 Dec</b>	4 Dec
<b>08</b>	8 Dec	<b>10 Dec</b>	11 Dec

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**COURSE CALENDAR****ASTR 110 OL – Fall 2023**

Module	Module Focus	Date	Chapter - Title	
1	Overview of the Universe, the Perspective from Earth, Gravity, Light, & Astronomers' Tools, & Introduction to the Solar System	16 Oct - 29 Oct	1	Science and the Universe
			2	Observing the Sky
			3	Orbits and Gravity
			4	Earth, Moon, and Sky
			5	Radiation and Spectra
			6	Astronomical Instruments
			7	Other Worlds
2	The Solar System's Many Worlds, Their Moons, & Comparative Planetology, Small Bodies of the Solar System, Origin of the Solar System	30 Oct – 12 Nov	8	Earth as a Planet
			9	Cratered Worlds
			10	Earthlike Planets
			11	The Giant Planets
			12	Rings, Moons, and Pluto
			13	Comets and Asteroids
			14	Cosmic Samples and Origins
3	The Sun, Starlight, Distances and Masses of Stars, The Interstellar Medium, The H-R Diagram, Birth and Aging of Stars	13 Nov – 26 Nov	15	The Sun: A Garden-Variety Star
			16	The Sun: A Nuclear Powerhouse
			17	Analyzing Starlight
			18	The Stars
			19	Celestial Distances
			20	Between the Stars
			21	The Birth of Stars
			22	Stars from Adolescence to Old Age
4	The Death of Stars, General Relativity and Black Holes, Galaxies, Their Types and Evolution, The Big Bang, Dark Matter, & Astrobiology	27 Nov – 10 Dec	23	The Death of Stars
			24	Black Holes
			25	The Milky Way Galaxy
			26	Galaxies
			27	Active Galaxies and Quasars
			28	Evolution and Distribution of Galaxies
			29	The Big Bang
			30	Life in the Universe
CONCLUSION and SUMMATION			10 – 14 Dec	
	15 December 2023		Fall Semester Ends	