

Syllabus for Astr 3103, Stars **(Prof Wang, Fall 2009)**

Course Information

Instructor: Prof. Yun Wang, NH 327, wang@nhn.ou.edu,
(405) 325-3961, ext 36327(office).

Textbook: *Modern Astrophysics*, by Carroll & Ostlie,
Addison-Wesley Publishing Co. (2006)

Meeting Place and Time: 1:30-2:45pm, Wed & Fri, NH 302

Office Hours: Drop by anytime. All students are strongly encouraged to discuss with Prof. Wang anything related to this course.

General Description

This is part one of the introductory astrophysics course for astronomy/astrophysics majors. It is assumed that the students have the appropriate physics background to understand the course material, and are comfortable with calculus and mathematical manipulations.

Course Objective

The goal of this course is to enable the students to acquire a basic background in astronomy that is important in the understanding of modern astrophysics, ranging from stars to galaxies and the universe. This will provide the students with a perspective of the physical universe, and a sound foundation for further studies in astronomy.

Course Requirements

Attendance: required. Students must sign in at each lecture.

Homework Policy: Late homework will not be accepted and will receive no credit. Please write your homework clearly and neatly; illegible homework will not be graded and will receive no credit. Students are encouraged to discuss problems with each other, but each student is expected to work out and write up the problems independently.

Exams: *Midterm 1: September 30 (Wednesday), in class;*

Midterm 2: November 4 (Wednesday), in class;

Final exam: December 16 (Wednesday), 9-11am

Grade: The course grade will consist of *10% attendance, 25% homework, 30% midterm exams, 35% final exam.*

Primary Reference Books (on reserve at the Physics & Astronomy Library):

The Physical Universe : an Introduction to Astronomy, by Frank H. Shu.
University Science Books, c1982.

Astronomy: the Evolving Universe, by Michael Zeilik.
Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Course Webpage (contains supplementary material) :

<http://www.nhn.ou.edu/~wang/3103.html>