

Syllabus

Site: [TCOnline](#)

Course: Solar System Lab (PHYS-1104-SW1--WEB, 2021-SU)

Book: Syllabus

Printed by: Delbert Dowdy

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Description

Course Syllabus



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Course Information

Course Number, Section, and Name: Physics 1104, W1, Online Web

Dates and Times: Summer 1 2021

Instructor's Name: Delbert Dowdy

Instructor's E-mail: delbert.dowdy@texarkanacollege.edu

Instructor's Phone #:

Office Hours: Available via E-mail

You can print this syllabus by going to the **Settings** block and selecting **Print Book**



Hello!

I am Delbert Dowdy and I'll be your professor for PHYS 1303 this semester. I have been teaching astronomy courses along with other physics and physical science courses for 43 years. I was raised in Sweetwater Texas and received a bachelor's degree in physics from University of Texas at Arlington. From there I went to the University of North Texas where I received a master's degree in physics. I am married to Lisa Dowdy, an elementary school teacher. I have two grown sons. The oldest is Michael who lives in Springdale, Ar with his wife and our two grandchildren, Emma and Axel. He is a computer programmer for Tyson. Jacob is the younger and is a elementary music teacher in Texarkana. My main hobby is woodworking. We like to travel, especially Disney World.

Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions or concerns. My email address is delbert.dowdy@texarkanacollege.edu

Course Description

Laboratory class for PHYS 1304. (Cross-listed as ASTR 1104). Pre/Co-requisite PHYS 1304.

Required Texts

There are no texts or printed labs to purchase for this course. All will be provided free and can be found on the web.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated:

1. An understanding of the sun's path in the sky
2. A knowledge of the phases of the moon and their changes
3. The use of a program that maps objects in the night sky
4. Understanding of the properties of the planets
5. A knowledge of the moon's surface
6. Knowledge of what makes the seasons
7. An understanding of comets

Student Expectations

Performance and Participation

Regular and active participation is required. The student must notify the instructor immediately if s/he is experiencing any obstacles in maintaining optimal performance. All performance will be monitored and swift action is taken to remedy any problems. Student behavior in the course is to be respectful at all times to instructor and peers. Students are expected to actively participate in the course. Each week of the course is designed to be completed over 7 days, not just in one sitting. Active participation includes posting answers to lab exercises.

Technical Skills

Students must possess the following technical skills in order to succeed in this course:

1. Using Moodle, the learning management system.
 - o

2. Using email.
 - o [CLICK HERE](#) for directions to put your email on your Android device.
 - o [CLICK HERE](#) for directions to put your email on your iOS device (iPhone, iPad).
3. Using the Microsoft Office Suite, including Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft PowerPoint.
 - o Microsoft Office is available to the students for free. The installation instructions can be found under the Links section of the Student tab in myTC – Free Office 365 for Students! This is NOT required but could be useful to you. [CLICK HERE](#) for information about downloading this program. Note: this program is designed for laptops and pcs not for mobile devices.

Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements

In order to view your online course your computer equipment should meet the following requirements:

- Windows XP, Vista, 7, or later; MacOS X or later
- A minimum of 1 GB of RAM Cable modem, DSL high speed internet connection (preferred). Some video content may not display well over a telephone modem.

- An internet connection through an Internet Service Provider (ISP)
- The latest version of the Firefox web browser (for both Mac or PC) Currently we are using Moodle as our Learning Management System (LMS) and there have been some issues of students not being able to view PowerPoints and videos with Internet Explorer, Safari, and some of the other web browsers. The following items may be required in some courses in order for you to view course materials.

Browser Settings

Some items in this course may require you to have your pop-up blocker disabled. To disable your pop-up blocker, click on the browser you are using for more information:

[Firefox](http://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/pop-blocker-settings-exceptions-troubleshooting#w_pop-up-blocker-settings) - http://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/pop-blocker-settings-exceptions-troubleshooting#w_pop-up-blocker-settings

[Chrome](http://support.google.com/chrome/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=95472) - <http://support.google.com/chrome/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=95472>

[Internet Explorer](http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-vista/internet-explorer-pop-up-blocker-frequently-asked-questions) - <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-vista/internet-explorer-pop-up-blocker-frequently-asked-questions>

[Safari](http://support.apple.com/kb/PH5040) (these directions are for blocking, do the opposite to stop blocking) - <http://support.apple.com/kb/PH5040>

The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:

Student Requirements for Completion of the Course and Due Dates
(Exams, term papers, reports, etc.)

Student Assessment (state how you are going to determine their course grade)

Grade	
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59-below

You have the following possibilities for earning points:

- (1) Orientation lab 60 total points
- (2) 8 Labs 520 total points
- (3) 3 Sun and Moon Exercises 270 total points
- (4) 2 Wrap up Labs 150 total points

1000 total points

Grading Scale (This is just a sample. I know it doesn't match with the student assessment above)

Class Schedule (This is an example of a daily class schedule. Yours might be by unit, week or some other means)

Month	Date	Material to be covered
August	23	Go over syllabus and begin Unit 1
	26	Test: Chapter 1; Begin Chapter 2
September	2	Labor Day: No class

Forums

*Each unit will have one or more Discussion Forums. Each student is required to respond with an original post by the end of the day on each Sunday (11:59 p.m.) of that week. This post can include the student's personal opinion, as well as researched and documented information. **At least one full paragraph should be included in the response, and the question should be investigated***

thoroughly. If outside sources are used, they should be properly cited at the end of the response. Each student is then required to respond to one (1) or two (2) other students' postings in order to facilitate learning and discussion unless otherwise instructed. These posts will be due by the end of the day on Sunday with your unit work (11:59 p.m. in your time zone). Make sure to proofread all of your posts. ***It is recommended that you type your post in a word processor such as Microsoft Word and after proofreading it paste it into Moodle.***

Forum Grading Rubric:

Guidelines for written work

Written assignments must have one-inch margins on all four sides, be double spaced, and be done in the Times New Roman font, size 12. Please note that correct spelling and grammar and a clear, easy-to-read writing style all count toward your grade. Use professional, formal, college English (i.e., no text-message language, contractions, clichés, or slang, for example). More details about each assignment will be given in class at the appropriate time.

Instructor Expectations

Students can expect the following from the instructor.

Response Time

The instructor will respond to all questions sent via email, phone, or the Course Q & A Forum within 24 hours. Exceptions may occur from time to time.

Support

Please view the **Support** drop down menu at the top of the page.

For issues within your course, please contact your instructor via the **Course Q & A Forum**.

Attention! Dropping this class may affect your funding in a negative way! You could owe money to the college and/or federal government. Please check with the Financial Aid office before making a decision.

Policies

School-wide policies are listed in the Catalog and Student Handbook located at the top of the page in the Policies drop down menu.

You can also access the Student Handbook by clicking [HERE](#).

Late work policy

Since a core focus of this course is to prepare you for experiences in higher education and/or your future in the workplace, completing work on time, in accordance with the good time- management skills you will learn in this course, is considered highly desirable and an important habit to develop. For this reason, points can be deducted for late work. If you are having trouble completing an assignment on time, please contact me as soon as possible. If possible, I want to work with you so you can submit the assignment without losing points.

Academic honesty

This college assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct, including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty, including but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion, shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Texarkana College 2016-2017 Catalog and Student Handbook for more information. Texarkana College will utilize as necessary, technology programs/software to ensure academic honesty.

You must complete all work independently unless otherwise instructed. Plagiarism, cheating, or any related offenses will result in an automatic zero for that assignment—no exceptions, no excuses!

Withdrawals

If for any reason you need to drop the course, it is your responsibility to inform me officially either in person or in writing, in a timely manner. If you are considering dropping, please try to meet with me to discuss your options. I may be able to help you find solutions to some of the challenges that may be affecting your progress in class. If I can help, I would like to! Ultimately the decision is yours; therefore, I will not drop students for any reason. All students who remain in the course will receive a grade based on their performance.

Texarkana College complies with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and makes reasonable accommodations upon request. Please contact Tonja Blase at [903.823.3349](tel:903.823.3349), or go by the Academic Learning Commons for personal assistance.

Please click [HERE](#) for more information.

Disability Act Statement:

Texarkana College complies with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and makes reasonable accommodations upon request. Please contact Larry Andrews at 903.823.3283, or go by the Recruitment, Advisement, and Retention Department located in the Administration building for personal assistance.

If you have an accommodation letter from their office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, please present it to me so we can discuss the accommodations that you might need for this class. *It is best to request these changes at the beginning if not before the start of class so there is ample time to make the accommodations..*

This college assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct, including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty, including but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion, shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Texarkana College 2016-2017 Catalog and Student Handbook for more information. Texarkana College will utilize as necessary, technology programs/software to ensure academic honesty.

You are required to complete all work independently unless otherwise instructed. Plagiarism, cheating, or any related offenses will result in an AUTOMATIC ZERO- no excuses or exceptions.

Course Format and Schedule

[COURSE SCHEDULE LINK](#)