

TEXARKANA COLLEGE

Syllabus: Solar System Lab

Course Number: Phys 1104.51W

Semester & Year:

Instructor Information

Name: Delbert Dowdy

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Office Hours:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9:00-12:00	9:00-11:00	9:00-12:00	9:00-11:00	By Appointment
1:00-2:00		1:00-2:00	1:30-2:30	
5:30-6:00		5:30-6:00		

Textbook Information

No Text required – All Labs are on the course website.

Computer Requirements

Access: This is an online course. You will need to have access to a computer. If you do not have access to a computer off campus, there are computers located in the Palmer Memorial Library that may be used by students. It is best if you have high speed internet access. If you have Dial-up, it may be difficult to download videos and other materials.

Operating System:

 Windows Operating System		 Mac OS X Operating System	
Minimum System Requirements		Minimum System Requirements	
Operating System:	Windows XP	Operating System:	OS X 10.6 (Snow Leopard)
Processor:	1.7 GHz	Processor:	1.83 GHz
RAM:	1 GB	Memory:	1 GB
Browser:	Firefox 4.0 Internet Explorer 8	Browser:	Firefox 4.0 Safari 4.0

Computer Hardware Requirements:

- Internet Access: High speed internet connection such as cable modem or DSL
- Processor: 2GHz processor
- Memory: 1GB RAM; 4 GB free hard drive space
- Some courses and/or assignments may require the use of a webcam.
- The learning management system is optimized for desktop displays; tablet and smartphone users should use the Mobile Apps. **Always** use a wired desktop or laptop to take you quizzes and exams on.

Browser: Texarkana College's Learning Management System (Moodle) suggests that students use the most current version of the Firefox browser. You can download Firefox by going to <https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/> .

Student Learning Outcomes for the Course

1. Study the motion of the sun in the sky
2. Study the motion of the moon in the sky
3. Describe the phases of the moon
4. Describe general sky motions
5. Describe the moons surface
6. Describe general planet properties
7. Describe inner planet properties
8. Describe outer planet properties
9. Describe the properties of comets
10. Show what forms the seasons

Student Requirements for Completion of the Course

The labs to be completed are as follows:

- 1: Orientation
- 2: Sun Position Journal
- 3: Sun Setting Journal
- 4: Moon Journal
- 5: Stellarium Introduction
- 6: Retrograde Motions
- 7: Moon Maps
- 8: Planet Properties
- 9: Comets
- 10: Inner Planets
- 11: Outer Planets
- 12: Seasons
- 13: Sun Wrap Up
- 14: Moon Wrap Up

Tests: There are no tests.

Remind.com: Reminders will be sent by way of the Remind.com web site in the form of either a text message or email if you do not want to receive text messages. Look online to see how to set up the service.

Lab: This is a separate lab that is offered for Astronomy 1304, if you need or wish to take the lab. Some people are not required to take a lab science. Check to make sure if you need or do not need the lab.

Problems: If you need assistance send an email to Astronomy1304@gmail.com with the word "Problem" in the subject line.

Class Behavior: There will be a zero tolerance policy for any behavior that is disruptive of classroom learning. This includes ANY use of vulgar language or rude behavior toward instructor or any other student in the class.

Student Grades

You can check your grades at any time by going to the GRADEBOOK portion on the left on the Course Page at TC Online.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

LAB	Points
Orientation	50
Sun Path Journal	90
Sun Setting Journal	90
Moon Phase Journal	90
Stellarium Intro	65
Retrograde motion	65
Lunar Maps	65
Properties of Planets	65
Inner Planets	65
Outer Planets	65
Comets	65
Seasons	65
Sun Path Wrap-up	80
Moon Wrap-up	80

Grading Scale

Grade	
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	599-below

Late Work: The three journaling labs will run through the semester and will have three due dates during the semester. The due date for the other labs will be Midnight of the last day listed on the web site. For each day you are late, 20% of that grade will be deducted up to 5 days in which your grade goes to zero. Exceptions will be when you can prove that you were unable to get to a computer. Waiting to the last minute and having a computer crash is not an acceptable excuse.

Attendance Policy: Attendance for Internet classes is based on submitting assignments. If a student stops sending assignments, the date of the last report of activity will be submitted to the Registrar, and a grade of “F” will be recorded. As a result the student may lose scholarships or grants or have to repay funds already rewarded. The TC absentee policy is pasted below:

ONLINE/HYBRID COURSE ABSENCES

Absence in this online course is defined as the lack of a submission during the week that the lab is due.

This standard will be used to determine all absentee issues, including but not limited to, 12th Day Census Reports, last date of attendance, and involuntary withdrawal from a course due to absences. All online students must complete an Enrollment Verification activity within the first week of class (activity depends upon the professor); otherwise the professor **may** drop the student for not having attended. Students must complete at least one activity in their online class per week. Each week in which a student does not complete an activity will be counted as an absence.

If a student is taking a hybrid course, and it does not meet during the first week of class, the student must also complete an Enrollment Verification activity within the first week of class; otherwise the student **may** be dropped for not having attended.

ABSENTEE POLICY

Texarkana College’s absentee policy allows instructors to withdraw a student from a course due to excessive absences.

Faculty members **are not** obligated to provide opportunities for students to make-up missed assignments as a result of a student’s absence from class. The institution is not required to take attendance with the exception of workforce/vocational areas, where certification requirements require taking attendance. However, experience demonstrates that regular attendance enhances academic success. As such, students are expected to attend each meeting of their registered courses.

A student should not stop attending a class without formally withdrawing from the course by the institutions published Last Day for Students to Drop. If a student stops attending class after the published Last Day for Students to Drop, the student **may** receive a grade of “F” in the class. The instructor will submit the last date of attendance for students receiving a grade of “F” or “W”.

Withdrawal from a course(s) **may** affect a student’s current or future financial aid eligibility. Students should consult the Financial Aid Office to learn both short and long term consequences of a withdrawal.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

A COURSE THAT MEETS FOR THE FULL 16 WEEK SEMESTER	
Class or Lab Meets:	An instructor may withdraw a student from a course if absences exceed:
Once a week (Night classes or Friday classes)	2
Twice a week (MW or TR classes)	4
Three times a week (MWF or TRF classes)	6
Four times a week (MTWR classes)	8

A student's absence due to school trips and/or school business will not be counted against a student's allowable number of absences. Military duty and absences for Holy Days (FBD LEGAL) are covered in a separate section of the catalog and the student handbook. These are the only excused absences that are considered by Texarkana College. Responsibility for work missed for any absence is placed on the student. Instructors are required to allow students to make up work missed if the absence is due to military duty* or religious holy days when students follow the correct notification procedures. Instructors are not required to allow students to make up work for absences due to other reasons. Make-up policies are listed in each individual instructor's syllabus.

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE ABSENCES

After official registration, the following number of unexcused absences will be the maximum allowable before a student **may** be dropped from the class. Mandated program certification requirements detailed for certain programs regarding the maximum allowable unexcused absences takes precedence over the following information.

Academic Integrity Statement

Scholastic dishonesty, involving but not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion, or falsification of records will make the student liable for disciplinary action after being investigated by the Dean of Students. Proven violations of this nature will result in the student being dropped from the class with an "F".

This policy applies campus wide, including TC Testing Center, as well as off-campus classroom or lab sites, including dual credit campuses. This information can be found in the Student Handbook at <https://texarkanacollege.edu>.

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..

Financial Aid:

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.