



Syllabus: Solar System

Course Number: ASTR 1104.W

Semester & Year: Spring 2014

Instructor Information

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Office Hours: Monday: 9-11, 2:30-3:30

Tuesday: 9-11, 1-3

Thursday: 1-3

Fridays by appointment

Textbook Information

No Text required – All Labs will be on the internet.

Student Learning Outcomes for the Course

- 1) Describe the motion of the sun
- 2) Describe the phases of the moon
- 3) Be able to use a planetarium computer program
- 4) Recognize retrograde motion
- 5) Recognize moon surface properties
- 6) Recognize planet properties
- 7) Describe properties of comets
- 8) Explain causes for the seasons

Student Requirements for Completion of the Course

Schedule: The lab schedule is as follows:

Week 1: Orientation

Week 2: Sun Position Journal

Week 3: Sun Setting Journal

Week 4: Stellarium Introduction

Week 5: Stellarium Motions

Week 6: Retrograde Motions

Week 7: Moon Maps

Week 8: Planet Properties

Week 9: Comets

Week 10: Inner Planets

Week 11: Outer Planets

Week 12: Seasons

Week 13: Sun Wrap Up

Week 14: Moon Wrap Up

Tests: There are no tests.

Remind 101: Reminders will be sent by way of the Remind101.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: There 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 Ast1304lab@gmail.com with the word "Problem" in the subject line.

Student Grades

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

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

LAB	Points
Orientation	40
Sun Path Journal	90
Sun Setting Journal	90
Moon Phase Journal	90
Stellarium Intro	60
Stellarium Motions	60
Retrograde motion	60
Lunar Maps	60
Properties of Planets	60
Inner Planets	60
Outer Planets	60
Comets	60
Seasons	60
Sun Path Wrapup	75
Moon Wrapup	75

Grade Recording Form: A form can be downloaded from the Course Page that will allow you to keep up with your grades. See the instructions on how to use the page.

Grading Scale

Grade	
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799

D	600-699
F	599-below

Late Work: The first three labs will run through the semester and will have a due date toward the end of 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 accessing course materials and submitting assignments. If a student stops accessing materials and 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 an **online course** is defined as the lack of an active post or submission within the course including discussion board posts, written assignments, and tests. 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. If a student leaves and returns during class or leaves the class before the class is over, he/she **may** be considered absent. Three tardies constitute one absence. It is the student’s responsibility to check the syllabus for each instructor’s tardy policy.

In some workforce/vocational areas, such as nursing and cosmetology, certification requirements necessitate an absentee policy that is more stringent than the institutional policy. In these instances, the matter of certification takes precedence over local policies, since certification policies are established by the State of Texas.

Faculty members **are not** obligated to provide opportunities for students to make-up missed assignments and tests 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 student’s absence due to school trips and/or school business will not be counted against a

A COURSE THAT MEETS FOR THE FULL 16 WEEK SEMESTER	
<p>Class or Lab Meets:</p> <p>Once a week (Night classes or Friday classes)</p> <p>Twice a week (MW or TR classes)</p> <p>Three times a week (MWF or TRF classes)</p> <p>Four times a week (MTWR classes)</p>	<p>An instructor may withdraw a student from a course if absences exceed:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Three tardies count as one absence</p>
A COURSE THAT MEETS FOR 14 WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER	
<p>Class or Lab Meets:</p> <p>Twice a week (MW or TR classes)</p>	<p>An instructor may withdraw a student from a course if absences exceed:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Three tardies count as one absence.</p>
A COURSE THAT MEETS FOR 8 WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER (Fast-Track)	
<p>Class or Lab Meets:</p> <p>Four times a week (MTWR classes)</p>	<p>An instructor may withdraw a student from a course if absences exceed:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Three tardies count as one absence.</p>
A COURSE THAT MEETS FOR 5 WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER (Summer Sessions)	
<p>Class or Lab Meets:</p> <p>3 times a week (MTW) (evening classes)</p> <p>4 times a week (MTWR) (day classes)</p>	<p>An instructor may withdraw a student from a course if absences exceed:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Three tardies count as one absence.</p>

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.

**Students interested in Health Occupations should check with the division chair prior to entering the program.*

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 Classes

Workforce Classes (This does not include Health Occupations. See Health Occupations Handbook regarding absences for that program.)

Day Classes	Evening Classes
<p>Class meets:</p> <p>5 days a week (MTWRF)</p> <p>The instructor may withdraw a student from a course if absences exceed five (5) up until the published Last Day for Students to Drop. Absences that exceed this number after the drop day may result in the student receiving an “F” in the program for that semester.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Three tardies count as one absence.</p> <p>You are considered tardy from the designated class start time through the first 15 minutes of class. After that you will be counted absent.</p>	<p>Class Meets:</p> <p>4 evenings a week (MTWR)</p> <p>The instructor may withdraw a student from a course if absences exceed five (5) up until the published Last Day for Students to Drop. Absences that exceed this number after the drop day may result in the student receiving an “F” in the program for that semester.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Three tardies count as one absence.</p> <p>You are considered tardy from the designated class start time through the first 15 minutes of class. After that you will be counted absent.</p>

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.