

Competencies -- ASTRONOMY 1010

- Students will understand the basic structure and dynamics of the solar system based on physical principles. They must appreciate the historical development of a scientific perspective. Competency will be measured by quizzes, one per chapter.
- Students must be able to find and identify visible planets and significant constellations with and without a telescope, and be able to demonstrate this knowledge on clear nights. Grading will be on expository skills and ability to identify denoted objects.
- Students must understand and apply the basic scientific perspective in which the validity of a concept is based on its ability to explain observations in repeatable tests. Their ability to think will be measured during in-class discussions and by their ability to use scientific perspectives on special projects and in laboratory.
- Students will learn the basic vocabulary of astronomy. They must use this vocabulary in class and in documenting their laboratory exercises, in projects, and in presentations.
- Students must understand the mechanics, processes, components, probable origin and evolution of the solar system, and be able to demonstrate this understanding in presentations and on quizzes.