ASTR 1020: Stellar and Extragalactic Astronomy Lab Syllabus

Fall 2020

Lab Grades (110 points total):

1) Lab Activities: 10 points each. 90 points total.

- Late labs will not be accepted.
- Each completed lab will be scored on a scale of 0-10 points. Your **lowest lab score will be dropped**. If you miss lab for any reason, that lab will be dropped.
- 2 labs will consist of creating a discussion post on an assigned topic (5 pts) and replying to another student's discussion post (5 pts). You will be given 3 possible topics by your TA, you will choose 2.
- Failure to complete at least a half of the lab (5 or more) will automatically result in an F for the lecture course. All other scenarios regarding lab grades will factor into your lecture grade normally.

2) Term Project: 20 points. You can choose any topic related to the *ASTR 1020* course (Stellar and Extragalactic Astronomy) for your project. The type of project can vary by your lab instructor's discretion. Project presentations are to be recorded and submitted to your iCollege page by the end of the semester.

Discussion Sessions: Your lab instructor will upload a recorded introduction lecture (\leq 30 minutes) for each lab at the beginning of the week. Your lab instructor will also be 1) available either twice per week for ~1 hour each for discussion sessions via a web conference platform, or 2) available for individual, smaller meetings throughout the week via a sign-up sheet. These are not mandatory, however they are great opportunities to ask questions and receive live feedback from your TA. Discussion times and web conference links will be provided by your TA. Please check your iCollege email/calendar frequently.

Honesty Policy: Students are expected to follow the honesty policies of the university. Any work that does not represent your own efforts will receive a score of zero. When group work is done, it is expected that each student in the group will reply to questions using their own words. **Do not copy other student's lab work or observation report.**

Tentative Weekly Schedule

Week of	Description
Aug 24	Lab 1: Solar Observing Final reports: Term project: Project Presentation (20 pts) Project is required and cannot be dropped.
Aug 31	Lab 2: Identifying Atomic Spectra
Sep 7	Labor Day Week. <i>NO LABS MEET!</i>
Sep 14	Lab 3: Discussion Post 1
Sep 21	Lab 4: Binary Stars Project Outline Due (4 points towards your project grade)
Sep 28	Lab 5: Leavitt's Law: The Period-Luminosity Relation
Oct 5	Lab 6: Galaxy Classification
Oct 12	Lab 7: The Cosmic Distance Ladder
Oct 19	Lab 8: Discussion Post 2
Oct 26	Lab 9: The Tully-Fisher Relation
Nov 2	Lab 10: Black Holes
Nov 9	Term project due : Recorded presentations Lab Evaluation due

Lab Instructor's Name: Justin Robinson Lab Instructor's Email: jrob@astro.gsu.edu Lab Instructor's Website: astro.gsu.edu/~jrob

If you encounter problems that your lab instructor cannot handle, please contact your lecture class instructor.