

ASTRONOMY 07

GENERAL SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

WEEK	DATE	LECTURE TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES / LECTURE	READING ¹	HOMEWORK ²	OPINION PIECE
1	24-Jan	Enrollment & objectives; introduction to Astrobiology / Lecture 01a	---	---	---
	26-Jan	Babylonians to Einstein; the nature of Science / Lecture 01b	Ch1,2	---	---
2	31-Jan	Scale of the Universe / Lecture 02a	Ch3.1-3.2	HW01	---
	2-Feb	Matter, light, and the nebular model / Lecture 02b	Ch3.3-3.5	---	---
3	7-Feb	Tools for understanding the Earth / Lecture 03	Ch4.1-4.3	HW02	---
	9-Feb	Earth, from core to atmosphere; the Moon / Lecture 03	Ch4.4-4.6	HW03	---
4	14-Feb	Organisms and evolution / Lecture 04a	Ch5.1-5.2	Mini-quiz	---
	16-Feb	Metabolism and heredity / Lecture 04b	Ch5.3-5.6	HW04	---
5	21-Feb	Origins of life; RNA world; t=0 to Cambrian / Lecture 05a	Ch6.1-6.3	HW05	---
	23-Feb	Extinction events; human evolution; playing God / Lecture 05b	Ch6.4-6.6	---	---
6	28-Feb	EXAM #1 (Ch1-6)	Ch1-6	---	---
	2-Mar	Requirements of life; life in the solar system / Lecture 06	Ch7.1-7.4	---	---
7	7-Mar	Introducing Mars / Lecture 07a	Ch8.1-8.3	HW06	---
	9-Mar	Prospects of life on Mars / Lecture 07b	Ch8.4-8.5	---	---
8	14-Mar	The Galilean satellites / Lecture 08a	Ch9.1-9.2	HW07	---
	16-Mar	Other enticing outer Moons / Lecture 08b	Ch9.3-9.4	---	---
9	21-Mar	Habitable zones, Venus & Earth / Lecture 09a	Ch10.1-10.3	HW08	---
	23-Mar	Continuously habitable zones, global climate change / Lecture 09b	Ch10.4-10.5	HW09	---
10	28-Mar	Lights in the night / Lecture 10	---	---	---
	30-Mar	EXAM #2 (Ch7-10)	Ch7-10	---	---
11	4-Apr	Other stars / Lecture 11	Ch11.1, 11.4	---	---
	6-Apr	Reality Walk #1	---	---	---
	11-Apr	Spring Break	---	---	---
	13-Apr		---	---	---
12	18-Apr	Extrasolar planets / Lecture 12	Ch11.2	HW10	OP1
	20-Apr	The rare Earth hypothesis / Lecture 12	Ch11.3	HW11	OP2
13	25-Apr	The Drake equation; SETI & CETI / Lecture 13a	Ch12.1-12.3	HW12	OP3
	27-Apr	Extrasolar civilizations; UFOs and previous contact / Lecture 13b	Ch12.4	HW13	OP4
14	2-May	Reality Walk #2	---	---	---
	4-May	Interstellar exploration by humans / Lecture 14b	Ch13.1-13.2	HW14	OP5
15	9-May	The Fermi paradox / Lecture 15a; all extra credits due	Ch13.3-13.4, epilogue	---	---
	11-May	Discussion day	---	---	---
16	16-May	EXAM #3 (Ch11-13)	Ch11-13	---	---
	18-May	FINAL EXAM (Class activities and homework sets)	Ch1-13	---	---

¹All reading assignments should be completed by the beginning of this class session.

²Dates homework is assigned; homework is due at the beginning of the next class session.