WELCOME TO THIS JOURNEY YOU ARE UNDERTAKING INTO THE FINAL FRONTIER:
In it you will learn a lot about how our physical universe works and explore concepts that will be important for voting citizens to have knowledge about, such as global warming, evolution, the ozone layers, etc. You will have an opportunity to improve your critical thinking and quantitative skills, both are extremely valuable in the employment market. Modern Astronomy’s educational approach for the liberal arts students is that it’s a course for science and mathematical literacy, since we cover many areas of the SMET subjects. Important topics like climate change, evolution, concepts of physics, chemistry, biology and engineering are touched on. If you need some guidance or help on the latter feel free to contact me or see our tutors.

MY GRADING POLICY
YOU WILL HAVE TO DO THE FOLLOWING TO EARN A GRADE:
1. READING ASSIGNMENT IN YOUR TEXT Read and Study assigned Chapter
2. ONLINE HOMEWORK (30% to 35% of Grade): is THE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT (FOUND ON THE MASTERING ASTRONOMY WEB (MA) site that you will have- See below ) 25% of your grade for Chapter Homework Tutorial and 75% for online short exam = online average= 30% to 35% of your grade
NOTE: before doing homework assignments at the Mastering Astronomy web site there is a study area described below, and if you follow the suggestions there, you will find after exploring the tutorials, etc there, you will do well on the assignment. BE SURE TO READ THE IMPORTANT ANNOUNCE ON THE HOME PAGE (MASTERING ASTRONOMY WEB SITE TO FOLLOW)
If you have problems with TIME MANAGEMENT or your STUDY SKILLS need improvement, you will find at your website in Mastering Astronomy an Important Announcement that has links to educate you on these important skills for success in college. NOTE: THE ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS WILL HAVE A DUE DATE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE) AND WILL BE PENALIZED 2% PER DAY LATE.
3. TAKE A MIDTERM AND FINAL (IN THE CLASSROOM) 60-65% % OF YOUR GRADE!! (100 QUESTIONS EACH (SHORT ANSWER AND TRUE/FALSE) IN A DOUBLE PERIOD OF TIME)
4. DO SOME OBSERVATIONS AT OUR OR OTHER OBSERVATORIES (5% OF YOUR GRADE) in the New York area (Staten Island, Brooklyn, NJ). This term this requirement is to see two celestial objects at an observatory (not necessary to visit twice) and write them up on our OBSERVING FORMS due no later than two weeks after your observatory visit. THIS CAN BE DONE IN ONE VISIT TO ANY OF THE SITES
There are direct links in the Important Announcement ON MASTERING ASTRONOMY WEB SITE to
A. PRINTING AN OBSERVING FORM. OLD VERSIONS ALSO FOUND at the back of your laboratory manual. (BELOW)
B. LINKS TO PLACES AROUND NYC TO OBSERVE
C. Links to the CSI Astrophysical Observatories’ Schedule
6. HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO EXTRA CREDIT up to 5 POINTS posted on YOUR FINAL AVERAGE. There are direct links in the Important Announcement to
A. EXTRA Credit opportunities: of NOTE:
i) is the two trips to the American Museum of Natural History worth 5 points each which consists of questions for you to answer when you visit found at the link in the announcement on MA,
ii) a Term paper (up to 5 points), there is a link on how to write a professional term paper for any course.
iii) I will give out short Extra Credit Assignments in class which are due the next time we meet, the latter have no value if given in late.
   iv) Extra observing forms handed in.
WARNING: THE HOMEWORK ON THE MASTERING ASTRONOMY COUNTS 30% TO 35% OF YOUR GRADE. SO IF YOU DO NOT SIGN ON THEN WITHDRAWING FROM THE CLASS WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO AVOID FLUNKING!

Reminder: Once you sign into my online course website MASTERING ASTRONOMY (see below), look over the very important announcement and explore the many links mentioned. (Like Course info, Extra credit, Term papers, Time management and How to study science! Etc).

**Summary of YOUR GRADE AVERAGE (GA)**

\[
\text{GA} = 60 \text{ TO } 65\% \text{ MID TERM AND FINAL EXAM (in class)} + 30\text{-}35\% \text{ on-line} (25\% \text{ GRADED CHAPTER ASSIGNMENT AVERAGE} + 75\% \text{ GRADED ONLINE CHAPTER EXAM}) + 5\% \text{ OBSERVING REQUIREMENT (SEE BELOW)} + \text{Extra Credit Points (MAX. of 5 PTS ON FINAL AVERAGE) - excessive absence penalty points and/or - disruptive penalty points (disturbing your neighbors AND ME by too much talking, ETC! YOUR ARE NOT IN HIGH SCHOOL ANYMORE!)}
\]

**NOTE:** A SIGNIFICANT PART OF YOUR GRADE IS THE MIDTERM AND FINAL WHICH ARE BASED ON THE ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS AND ONLINE SHORT EXAMS AND THE TEXT AND THE CLASS LECTURES. THE MID TERM EXAMINATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT LEAST 1 WEEK IN ADVANCE. THE FINAL EXAM IS DURING FINAL EXAM WEEK: BOTH are 100 w questions with

**MY GRADING SCHEME:**

\[
\text{GA} = \text{FINAL AVERAGE: } \text{GA} \geq 93 = \text{A; GA} < 92 \& \geq 89 = \text{A-; GA} < 89 \& \geq 85 = \text{B+; GA} < 85 \& \geq 82 = \text{B; GA} < 82\leq 79 = \text{B-; GA} < 79 \geq 74 = \text{C+; GA} < 74 \& \geq 69 = \text{C; GA} < 69 \& \geq 55 = \text{D; GA} < 55 = \text{F;}}
\]

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** This is competitive: Good GPA and ability to work in Excel is the minimum requirement for the first 3 positions noted.

**ENTER CHOICE ON SIGNATURE SHEET (HANDED OUT IN CLASS, RECEIVE SIGNIFICANT EXTRA CREDIT depending upon performance**

- **ATTENDANCE** Good GPA and must know EXCELL
- **OBSERVING REPORT GRADER** Good GPA and must know EXCELL
- **OBSERVATORY HELPERS**– (EACH ATTENDANCE ADDS POINTS TO YOUR FINAL AVERAGE!) just ATTEND sessions early and assist the observer. usually stamping observing reports and crowd guidance

**AUDIO MONITOR** SET UP PORTAL MIKE AT EACH SESSION)

\[\text{You will find also useful the OBSERVATORY/ASTRONOMY/ASTROPHYSICS WEB SITE:}
\]

1. Go to the COLLEGE WEB SITE see the Quick Links in the upper right of CSI web page. pick Astrophysical Observatory then CHECK OUT the YELLOW student oriented label links on the left of the Main page. The latter is especially useful for extra credit assignments in the lecture and laboratory.

**WHAT text books and other resources do I need PROF?**

**NOTE FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE MONEY FOR THE TEXTBOOKS OR ONLINE SIGN UP FOR MASTERING ASTRONOMY. (REMEMBER THE BOOKSTORE NEW BOOK MAY BE YOUR BEST FINANCIAL OPTION) IF YOU ARE WAITING FOR A GRANT THAN YOU CAN BORROW MONEY! TRY FIRST THE GRANT OFFICE THEN THE VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS LINK HERE: Vice President for Student Affairs**

**THE VICE PRESIDENT REGULARLY ISSUES CHECKS TO HELP WITH BOOKS AND GIVES PLENTY OF TIME TO PAY BACK THE TEXTBOOK IS IN THE LIBRARY REFERENCE SECTION FOR YOU TO USE THERE.**

**LAB MATERIAL FOR THE FIRST WEEK IS GIVEN OUT IN THE LAB. I DO NOT TAKE AS AN EXCUSE THAT YOU HAVE NO MONEY..SORRY.**
The online Mastering Astronomy has due dates and if you prove to me that you were waiting for a grant I will remove the late penalty on the first assignment, possibly the second? The late penalty is 1% per day late.

You must have from Bookstore material AND/OR ONLINE AT www.masteringastronomy.com the following three items Laboratory Manual, TEXT and access to Mastering Astronomy by any one of the following three purchase options. BE SURE TO CHECK ON PRICING. USUALLY OPTION ONE IS BEST IF PURCHASING A NEW TEXTBOOK, EVEN CHEAPER THAN A USED TEXTBOOK. E Book is also available.

OPTION 1(TEXTBOOKS AT BOOKSTORE):
I: At Bookstore: Laboratory Text: Astronomy 101 Solar System Laboratory Manual 6TH Ed. - by Robbins
NOTE: COPIES OF LAB MATERIAL ARE NOT PERMITTED! SPECIAL PRICE!

II: At Bookstore: NEW TEXT BOOK PACKAGE COMBINED WITH A "STUDENT ACCESS KIT FOR" PARTICIPATING IN "MASTERING ASTRONOMY" WEBSITE THAT CONTAINS MY ONLINE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS AND TUTORIAL HELP" CONTENTS OF PACKAGE INCLUDE:: Course Text: THE COSMIC PERSPECTIVE Solar System BY BENNETT, ET AL. Seventh edition AND STUDENT ACCESS KIT FOR "MASTERING ASTRONOMY"(MA) see instructions in the kit and below for signing on to MA. COST SPECIAL PRICING Note: we have a special price for this package a used book without access kit would cost a lot more so the bookstore does not carry used books (be careful about buying one) and you would have to pay an additional amount for joining MA

USING THE STUDENT ACCESS CODE KIT FOR "MASTERING ASTRONOMY"(SEE Below for additional instructions)

GO to the Website WWW.masteringastronomy.com Register with the New Students link pick option “YES I have an access code after entering your code be sure to pick WHEN YOU FINALLY SIGN ON YOUR STUDENT ID IS THE CUNY FIRST ID (EMPLOY Id) OR YOUR CELL PHONE IF THAT IS OK WITH YOU. YOU WILL REGISTER THIS ID WHEN YOU SIGN ON TO MY COURSE. SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN THE STUDENT ACCESS CODE KIT with the textbook and the MA instructions here with this information. WHEN ASKED FOR THE BOOK USE BENNETT COSMIC PERSPECTIVE Seventh edition (do not pick Solar System OR Stars and Galaxies version for mastering astronomy).

THE COURSE ID IS “GIVEN IN CLASS” (BE SURE NOT TO ENROLL IN ANOTHER CLASS) and type your normal EMAIL address perfectly since I MAY communicate to you your progress with this address. IF YOU CHANGE YOUR EMAIL..LET ME KNOW AND/OR CHANGE IT ONLINE!
NOTE: AN EBOOK IS INCLUDED IN THE PRICE AND YOUR ENROLLEMENT IS GOOD FOR A YEAR WHICH IS USEFUL IF YOU TAKE ANOTHER ASTRONOMY COURSE.

OPTION 2(E_BOOK):
I: At Bookstore: Laboratory Text: Astronomy 101 Solar System Laboratory Manual 6TH Ed. - by Robbins
NOTE: COPIES OF LAB MATERIAL ARE NOT PERMITTED! SPECIAL PRICE!

II: AT THE MASTERING ASTRONOMY WEBSITE:
GO to the Website WWW.masteringastronomy.com Register with the New Students link pick option “No I need to purchase access online now then
STEP 2: In the eText option BE SURE TO LINK TO THE 7TH EDITION i.e. “BENNETT, ET AL. THE COSMIC Perspective 7e. (do not pick Solar System OR Stars and Galaxies version for mastering astronomy).

and STEP 3: Pick YES Please include the etext …. Pay the fee ! and create a pearson account (good for a year) by answering no to the question “Do you have a Pearson education account?. Full Registration information is below
THE COURSE ID IS “GIVEN IN CLASS” (BE SURE NOT TO ENROLL IN ANOTHER CLASS) and type your EMAIL address perfectly since I will communicate to you your progress with this address. NOTE: the EBOOK AND YOUR ENROLLEMENT IS GOOD FOR A YEAR WHICH IS USEFUL IF YOU TAKE ANOTHER ASTRONOMY COURSE.

TOTAL COST OF OPTION 2 may be CHEAPER THAN OPTION 1 but you will not have a textbook.

OPTION 3 (you have a textbook or get a cheap( not usually!) used book)

I: At Bookstore: Laboratory Text: Astronomy 101 Solar System Laboratory Manual  6TH Ed. - by Robbins

NOTE: COPIES OF LAB MATERIAL ARE NOT PERMITTED!

II: AT the MASTERING ASTRONOMY WEBSITE:

GO to the Website WWW.masteringastronomy.com Register with the New Students link pick STEP 1: option “No I need to purchase access online now then

STEP 2: In the eText option BE SURE TO LINK TO THE 7TH EDITION i.e. “ BENNETT, ET AL. THE COSMIC Perspective 7e. (do not pick Solar System OR Stars and Galaxies version for mastering astronomy).

and STEP 3: Pick NO Thanks to the etext request. Pay the fee! and create a pearson account (good for a year) by answering no to the question “Do you have a Pearson education account?.

Registration information is below

OTHER ITEMS TO PURCHASE Purchase a 3 ring binder to hold the laboratory text to keep yourself organized. Additional Material

Some Registration instructions: actual questions asked may not be in the order below.

After the usual acceptance, you will create a user account.

Remember: THE COURSE ID IS “GIVEN IN CLASS” (BE SURE NOT TO ENROLL IN ANOTHER CLASS) and type your EMAIL address perfectly since I will communicate to you your progress with this address. YOUR Student ID is the CUNY FIRST ID if you know it, you can put that in latter

In General:

What You Need:


A valid email address (ENTER CAREFULLY since I will use this to contact you!)
A student access code (Comes in the Student Access Kit packaged with your new textbook. Otherwise, you can purchase access online at www.masteringastronomy.com.) SEE OPTIONS ABOVE.

✓ The zip code for your school: ___10314________

In addition,
✓ A Course ID: _____ GIVEN IN CLASS ____________

Student Registration: Some questions you may be asked (this is a bit repetitive for clarity)

- Go to www.masteringastronomy.com.
- Select the title and edition of the textbook used for your course. SEE OPTIONS ABOVE

- If you have a new student access code, click Register. (Don’t have a new access code? You can purchase access by clicking Buy Now and following those steps above in the various options to register).
- Read the License Agreement and Privacy Policy and click “I Accept.”
- Leave “No, I am a New User” selected, then type in your Access Code in the fields provided. (Enter one “word” per box, without the dashes.)
- Enter your School Zip Code, select your Country and click Next.
- Enter your Name and Email and select Your School.
- Create a personal Login Name and Password, answer the Security Question and click Next.

When successful, the Confirmation & Summary page confirms your registration information. This information will also be emailed to you for your records.

**Enroll in Your Instructor’s Course**
If you received a Course ID SEE ABOVE from your instructor, you will use this to “enroll” in your instructor’s MasteringAstronomy online course so that you can be included in your instructor’s gradebook.

- Go to www.masteringastronomy.com. If asked to identify your text, select the title and edition of your course textbook.
- Under Returning User? enter the login name and password you created, then click Log In.
- When prompted, enter your Course ID. (Student ID=CUNY ID if known) Be sure to enter this information EXACTLY. To access your course from now on: Simply go to www.masteringastronomy.com, and enter your login name and password.

**System Requirements & Support:**
View the system requirements for your product: http://bit.ly/1cbGxnx
Pearson 24/7 Support: http://247pearsoned.custhelp.com/

**Tips for a Great Learning Experience**
1 Watch this Video for help getting started with MasteringAstronomy: http://bit.ly/16Gv0Xx
3 Stay in touch with Pearson! Bookmark the Pearson Students Website: http://pearsonstudents.com/

MA=Mastering Astronomy
What do I do when I get there?
You will be on the Calendar and Announcement page. Read and look over THE IMPORTANT announcement immediately” below the calendar. Lots of references about what is expected of you and resources to help you do well.

**When working on a chapter:**
On the upper panel is the link to the "STUDY AREA" which contains helpful information and links.
Self-Study Area information links you will see are
NOTE: You are in the self-study area. Using these links can help significantly in your study of Astronomy so use them as often as possible. Preferably, before you do the ASSIGNMENT that are graded AS pointed out as part of the Homework and Short Exams Assignments link!
Key links in the self-study area are

- **Chapter Summaries**
- **Quizzes (Reading, Concept, Visual)** (HINT: I put these on the regular graded Homework)
- **Self Guided Tutorials **----------THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO LEARN AND SUCCEED IN THIS COURSE! And should be done as a minimum self-study along with the quizzes.
To get the most out of the study area it is suggested you:

First, do the **READING part of** the assignment (the assignment link is found on the previous web page, and be sure to follow the general information at the assignment link to maximize your learning from the reading),

Second, you do the following by first picking the chapter you are working on, then using the above links found on Mastering Astronomy:

1. Go over the **Chapter Summary** (also found in the text)
2. Find the **Interactive Figures** for the chapter you are working on and run them.
3. Watch the recommended **movie** if any in the assignment you are working on.
4. ESPECIALLY: Do the recommended **Self Guided Tutorials** found in the assignment you are working on.
5. There are three types of quizzes in the **Quizzes** section do them all!
6. If you still feel week you may find the **Flashcards** section of the Study area very useful.
7. Now do the required online Homework as listed in the assignment.
8. Finally, take the online Exam that is listed in the assignment.

**EXAMS YOU WILL GET, WILL IN THE MOST PART, BE BASED ON THE MATERIAL ABOVE WITH SOME EXTRA MATERIAL FROM YOU INSTRUCTORS LECTURES.**

 DO NOT SEND ME FRIVALOUS EMAILS ABOUT THE INFORMATION ABOVE (IE WHAT IS THE COURSE ID PROF?). BUT DO SEND ME ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE NOT COVERED ABOVE..

THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE  

PROF IRV ROBBINS