

SIO 1: Winter 2015
The Planets
Instructor: Dave Stegman

Times and locations

Lectures	M, W, F	3:00–3:50	York 2622
Office hours	Friday	2:00-2:50	Galbraith Hall 364
HW sessions	M, W, Th, F.	4:00-5:00	York 3030
Midterm 1	Mon., Jan. 26	3:00–3:50	York 2622
Midterm 2	Mon., Feb. 23	3:00–3:50	York 2622
Final	Wed March 18	3:00–6:00	TBA

Instructor

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Teaching Assistants

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Required Course Materials

iClicker remote (available at bookstore). *You must register your clicker through TED* (formally WebCT). All other required materials will be posted online. You also should have a scientific calculator with log and y^x keys.

Textbook (recommended)

The Grand Tour: A Traveler's Guide to the Solar System (by William Hartmann and Ron Miller), 3rd edition (2005), Workman Publishing Company. The textbook is available in the bookstore.

Grading

Problem sets (homework)	30% (lowest score dropped)
Classroom attendance	5%
iClicker questions	5%
Midterm 1	15%
Midterm 2	15%
Final	30%
Extra Credit (Star parties)	+2% (per event)

Attendance

You are expected to attend all the lectures. We will use the iClicker remotes both to verify attendance and to ask questions about the material. Both the lecture PowerPoint slides and instructor notes will be posted on TED.

Exams

There will be two midterms and a final examination; the final exam will be cumulative. All of the exam questions are based on the material from both the lectures and the course notes. All exams will be signed by the test-taker and your ID will be checked against the online photo of you provided by the registrar. All exams are closed book and closed notes. The final exam will be given on Wednesday, March 18, from 3-6 pm.

Note the final exam will only be offered at this time —please do not take this class if you will be unable to make this time.

Make-Up Exams

Exam absences will be excused only when a student misses the exam for a legitimate reason such as: (1) illness, (2) family emergency, (3) religious belief conflict, (4) athletic competition conflict. A doctor's or Dean's note is required for (1) and (2). Please get in touch with us as soon as possible if such a situation arises. Anyone with conflicts (3) or (4) must provide at least 2 weeks notice with appropriate signed paperwork. In the case of missed exams, students will receive zero if they have no legitimate excuse. If they have a legitimate excuse, they may be asked to take a makeup exam or their point total for the class will be scaled to correct for the effect of the missing exam (this decision will be made by the instructor).

Homeworks and Homework Sessions

There will be weekly homework assignments, which are posted in Ted folders for each week. The lowest graded homework will not be counted in the final tally. Homeworks will be turned in during your assigned homework session as hardcopies (paper) and graded homeworks will be returned.

The TAs will answer questions about homework assignments during these sessions and provide an opportunity for students to ask the TAs questions about the course material and homework assignments. TA's will provide worked examples of questions similar to those on the homework assignment. *You are not required to attend the entire session.*

Late Homework

Because you can drop your lowest homework grade (see above), late homework will **NOT** be accepted.

Working Together on Homework

Studies have shown that students often learn best when they consult with each other. You can ask other students questions about the homework. *However, each student must turn in his or her own assignments, written using his or her own words.* Do not write up the assignments together. Do not cut and paste material from the web or share text with your classmates. In previous years we have had to file cases of plagiarism with the UCSD Academic Dishonesty Office. This is an unpleasant experience for everyone. *Always write your own assignments from scratch.* It's the right thing to do and the only safe way to avoid plagiarism. Do not loan your completed assignment to anyone else—you are equally responsible for the infraction if they copy it.

Regrades

Although we work very hard to grade homework and exams correctly, we aren't infallible. You may submit assignments/exams for re-grading, subject to these rules:

- * When you submit an assignment or exam for a re-grade, you must also submit a written description of what you think we did wrong.
- * Requests must be filed within 1 week of when the assignments are returned to you.
- * We will re-grade the entire assignment or exam, not just the portion you feel was graded incorrectly.
- * Because we will re-grade the entire assignment or exam, your grade will not necessarily improve as a result of the re-grade—if we find something wrong that we missed before, your grade could drop.
- * We will not re-grade any assignment that is written in pencil or erasable ink.

Extra Credit Star Parties

Two evening star parties are planned to look at the Moon and whatever planets are visible through small telescopes. Times and locations are to be determined but will be somewhere on the UCSD campus. You will receive extra credit if you attend these events (bring your ID). There may also be solar viewing before/after one of the classes.

UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship

UCSD has an established policy on academic honesty that we will follow in this class. Please see:

http://students.ucsd.edu/files/Academic-Integrity/Policy-on-Integrity-of-Scholarship_eff-fall2009.pdf

and review the "Student Responsibilities" section. In plain English: don't cheat, don't plagiarize, and don't use a "ringer."