Course Outline for ASTR 255 Winter 2019-2020

Instructor
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• Office hours: by appointment

TA
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Textbook
*Fundamental Planetary Science: Physics, Chemistry and Habitability*

*Movies in the book can be found here*
E-copies available at the library
Planetary Science is the scientific study of planets, moons, and planetary systems, both solar and extra-solar, and the processes that form them. In this case, we will cover

- Dynamics
- Solar Heating and Energy Transport
- Planetary Atmospheres
- Surfaces and Interiors
- Sun, Solar Wind and Magnetic Fields
- Giant Planets
- Terrestrial Planets and the Moon
- Planetary Satellites
- Meteorites
- Minor Planets and Comets
- Planetary Rings

Evaluations

- Homework: 40%
  - We plan to have one assignment every two weeks or so.
- In-class midterm exam: 20%
  - (tentatively) Feb. 11 / in class
- Term project: 20% (10% paper + 10% oral presentation)
  - Topic: Solar system probes (excluding the Moon)
  - Topic selection by Feb. 25
  - Presentations on March 31 and April 3
- Final exam: 15%
- Classroom participation: 5% (lead discussions of problems, bring questions to classroom, etc)
- Grading will done according to the university policy