Syllabus - 2017

Lecture date, number — Subjects

Tu Jan 17:  1  Introduction, syllabus & class rules; units and scales, Earth rotation, time zones, constellations, ‘Grand Tour’
Th Jan 19:  2  Seasons, phases, eclipses
Tu Jan 24:  3  History 1: The Greeks, Copernicus, Tycho, Kepler
Th Jan 26:  4  History 2: Galileo, Newton
Tu Jan 31:  5  How science works
Th Feb  2:  6  The nature of light, telescopes
Tu Feb  7:  Exam 1: Lectures 1 — 6

Th Feb  9:  7  How astronomers use spectra to learn about stars
Tu Feb 14:  8  Stars: distance, luminosity, mass,…. star formation
Th Feb 16:  9  Stars: our Sun
Tu Feb 21: 10 Stars: energy generation, main sequence life
Th Feb 23: 11 Stars: life from main sequence to white dwarf
Tu Feb 28: 12 Stars: death — supernovae, neutron stars, black holes
Th Mar  2:  Exam 2: Lectures 7 — 12
Tu Mar  7:  Exam 3: Lectures 1 — 12
Th Mar  9:  Exam 4: Lectures 1 — 12

Tu Mar 21: 13 Our Galaxy — the Milky Way
Th Mar 23: 14 Galaxies: properties, clusters of galaxies, dark matter
Tu Mar 28: 15 Galaxies: evolution, distances, expansion of Universe
Th Mar 30: 16 Galaxies: active galaxies, supermassive black holes
Tu Apr  4: 17 Cosmology: Big Bang — evolution of the Universe
Th Apr  6:  Exam 5: Lectures 13 — 17

Tu Apr 11: 18 Solar System: introduction, formation
Th Apr 13: 19 Solar System: other solar systems, Jupiter—Neptune
Tu Apr 18: 20 Solar System: outer parts: Pluto, Kuiper belt, comets
Th Apr 20: 21 Solar System: satellites, asteroids, Moon, Mercury
Tu Apr 25: 22 Solar System: Mars and Venus
Th Apr 27: 23 Solar System: Earth
Tu May  2:  Exam 6: Lectures 18 — 24
Th May  4: 24 History of life on Earth, life in the Universe

Mar 13 — 17:  Spring Break

There will be no final exam.
There will be no makeup exams.

There will be a help session from 4 – 6 PM on the night before every exam.