

UC Berkeley Summer Sessions

Student Orientation Guide

EPS W12/ ASTRO W12

Department of Earth and Planetary Science, Department of Astronomy

June 22 - August 14, 2020

Expected Student Workload

The estimated workload for this course is **8-12 hours per week**. In order to be successful in the course, you need to allocate at least this much time.

Preparing for Your Course

Textbooks/Course Materials

- The textbook information will be provided as a separate document.
- MasteringAstronomy package: 75% of the homework will be completed online using this package. This is a separate from our online classroom and you need access to this resource to pass this class

Computer Requirements

- Internet
 - Canvas has been carefully crafted to accommodate low bandwidth environments
 - Minimum of 512kbps
- Operating System
 - Windows 7 and newer
 - Mac OSX 10.6 and newer
 - Linux – chromeOS
- Mobile Operating System Native App Support
 - iOS 7 and newer (versions vary by device)
 - Android 4.2 and newer
- Computer Speed and Processor
 - Use a computer five years old or newer when possible
 - 1 GB of RAM
 - 2 GHz processor
- Screen Size
 - A minimum of 800x600 – (size of an older netbook)
 - If you want to use a device with a smaller screen it is recommended to use the Canvas [mobile app](#).
- Screen Readers (only needed for students who are blind, visually impaired or have a learning disability)
 - Macintosh: [VoiceOver](#) (latest version for Safari)
 - PC: [JAWS](#) (latest version for Internet Explorer)
 - PC: [NVDA](#) (latest version for Firefox)
 - There is NO screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome

Course Log-on

- Classroom – bcourses.berkeley.edu
 - You will need to authenticate and login with your CalNet ID and passphrase
 - If you don't already have your CalNet ID contact CalNet directly
 - calnet@berkeley.edu or 510-642-4126
- [Personalize your settings](#) (only takes a minute)
- [Setting up your notification preferences](#) (you can choose to receive course communication through a personal email account or mobile device)
 - We recommend setting your preference for receiving Announcements to ASAP (via text or email) in case we need to contact you on short notice
- Tech Support
 - In your course, click on the “Help” button on the bottom left of the global navigation menu

Access to Your Course

- You will be able to access the Orientation Module one week prior to the start date
 - Read and accept the UC Berkeley Academic Integrity Pledge
 - Module 1 will open on the first day of class
- PLEASE NOTE:** You will NOT be able to launch Module 1 until you read and accept the UC Berkeley Academic Integrity Pledge.

Learning Activities

- Read the assigned textbook pages
- Watch the multimedia lecture presentations
- Post short essays to the discussion forums
- Engaging into discussion with your GSI
- Complete weekly homework assignments

Students with Disabilities

- If you are requiring course accommodations due to a physical, emotional, or learning disability contact the [UC Berkeley's Disabled Students' Program \(DSP\)](#).
- Notify the instructor and GSI through course email and inform them which accommodations you would like to use.

Midterm and Final Exams

- Midterm exam 1: week 4, Thursday, July 16, 2020
- Midterm exam 2: week 6, Thursday, July 30, 2020
- Final exam: week 8, Thursday, August 13, 2020
- All exams start at 10am Pacific (GMT-7) = 1pm Eastern (GMT-4) = 7pm Paris time (GMT+2) = 2am Tokyo time (GMT+9).
- **All exams are online and each 70 minutes long.** (No presence on campus or proctoring service are required.) You will be required to start the exam

within 15 minutes of the specified time. However, you will be given the option to take the exam at a later time

- if you reside an inconvenient time zone and make a request beforehand.
- if they have a direct conflict with another exam.

Have Questions?

Email summer_online_support@berkeley.edu