

University of California
Berkeley



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ASTRO W12/EPS W12
The Planets
June 23-August 15, 2014
ORIENTATION

Summer Session Tutorials:
[Introduction to Your Online Classroom](#)
[Setting Up Your Notification Preferences](#)
[Setting Up Your Personal Setting and Profile Picture](#)
[How to Use Announcements, Discussions and Conversations to Communicate in Your Course](#)
[How to Check Your Grade](#)
[Finding a Proctor](#)

The estimated workload for this course is **6-12 hours per week**. In order to be successful in the course you will want to allocate at least this much time per week, if not more.

1. Textbooks/Course Materials

- [The Cosmic Perspective: The Solar System with MasteringAstronomy](#), 7/E. Jeffrey O. Bennett, et al. ISBN-10: 0321841069 ISBN-13: 9780321841063. **A new textbook will include a valid access code to MasteringAstronomy.**
- MasteringAstronomy package: 75% of the homework will be completed online using this package that accompanies your textbook. You need access to this resource to pass this class and this is *separate from the online classroom*. Please see the attached document for various options to purchase the package.

2. Computer Requirements

- **Internet**
 - i. High-speed Internet, 3 Mbps (megabit per second) or faster
- **Operating System**
 - i. Windows XP SP3 and newer
 - ii. Mac OSX 10.6 and newer
- **Computer Speed and Processor**
 - i. Use a computer four years old or newer when possible
 - ii. 1 GB of RAM
 - iii. 2GHz processor
- **Screen Size**
 - i. A minimum of 1024x600 pixels – (Average size of a netbook)
- **Screen Readers** (only needed for students blind, visually impaired or have a learning disability)

- i. Internet Explorer 9 & 10 and Firefox - latest version of JAWS
 - ii. Safari - latest version of VoiceOver
 - iii. Chrome - there is NO screen reader for Chrome
- **Mobile OS Native App Support** (mobile devices not required)
 - i. iOS 5 and newer
 - ii. Android 2.3 and newer
- **24/7 Tech Support**
 - i. If you are having technical issues within your class it's important to notify them ASAP support@instructure.com or 1-855-308-2758

3. Course Logon

- Classroom -- <https://bcourses.berkeley.edu>
- Summer Session students need to authenticate and log in with their CalNet ID and passphrase
 - If you don't already have your CalNet ID you should contact CalNet directly
 - calnet@berkeley.edu or 510-642-4126
- Personalize your settings (only takes a minutes)
 - Choose **Settings** from top right menu
 - Customize your settings and add your profile picture
 - For more information how to do this view the [Setting Up your Personal Setting and Profile Picture](#) tutorial
 - Set 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
 - For more information on how to do this view the [Setting Up your Notification Preferences](#) tutorial

4. Start Your Course

- Students will be able to access the Student Orientation Module for the course one week prior to the start date.
- To begin your course:
 - Log in
 - From the global navigation go to "COURSE"
 - Choose your course
 - Click on the blue "START HERE" button
 - Work through the Student Orientation module and **complete** the required practice assignments
 - Review the Academic Integrity module and "TAKE the PLEDGE" to the Academic Integrity Agreement
- All other Modules will be locked until the official start date.

PLEASE NOTE: On the official start date you will NOT be able to launch Module 1 until you complete all the assignments in the Student Orientation module and "TAKE the PLEDGE" to the Academic Integrity Agreement.

5. Learning Activities

- Read the assigned textbook pages
- Watch and listen to the multimedia lecture presentations
- Engaging in interaction with GSI and professor
- Compose and post contributions to the weekly online discussions
- Complete written homework and online homework using MasteringAstronomy package
- Complete midterm exam online (available only during 24 hour time window)
- Complete final exam
- Read classroom announcements posted during the course

6. Students with Disabilities

- Any students requiring course accommodations due to a physical, emotional, or learning disability must contact UC Berkeley's Disabled Students' Program (DSP), <http://dsp.berkeley.edu/services.html>. The DSP will review all requests on an individual basis.
- Please have your Disabled Student Program Specialist send the instructor a formal request **BEFORE** the course start date by email
- In addition, notify the instructor prior to the course start date

7. Who should you contact for support?

- Please see the “Who should you contact” document for detailed instructions

8. Final Exam Expectations

- a. Your final exam will be available in an on-campus setting on **Wednesday, August 13, 2014 from 6-8 p.m.** (location TBD) for those who are in Berkeley.
- b. If you cannot attend the on-campus final exam you must secure a proctor at an approved proctoring site. Find out how to do this by reviewing the [Finding a Proctor Tutorial](#).
- c. Fill out the [Summer Session Proctor Application](#). The application must be submitted by **July 18, 2014**.