



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of Physics & Astronomy

ASTR-101-001
Astronomy: Night Sky and Solar System (Planets)
Fall 2018

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/astr.html>

* Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor	Dr. James Nemec	
(b) Office hours	1:00-2:30 pm, Tues. & Thurs.; 10:00-10:30pm, Monday and Wednesday	
(c) Location	Fisher 340c	
(d) Phone	250-370-3510	Alternative: _____
(e) E-mail	nemec@camosun.ca	
(f) Website	_____	

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(If any changes are made to this part, then the Approved Course Description must also be changed and sent through the approval process.)

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify constellations and famous bright stars.
2. Describe the daily, monthly and yearly motions of the Sun, Moon, planets and stars.
3. Outline how our modern knowledge of the four forces of nature (gravity, electricity and magnetism, the strong force and the weak force) and the over 100 elements in the Periodic Table, evolved from the ancient idea that there are two forces (gravity and levity) and four elements (earth, water, air and fire).
4. Summarize Kepler's Laws describing the motion of the Moon and planets, Newton's Laws of motion and gravity, Maxwell's Laws concerning electricity and magnetism, and the basic laws of light and matter.
5. Describe how optical, radio and other telescopes work.
6. Summarize the composition and structures of the planets.
7. Describe the giant planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune and their many satellites.
8. Describe and draw logical conclusions about the history of the debris in the solar system: meteorites (stony and iron) and asteroids, the asteroid belt, objects (such as Pluto) in the Kuiper belt, and comets (for example, Halley's comet).
9. Describe a scientific model for the formation and evolution of the solar system that successfully accounts for the many observed properties and systematic features, such as why all the planets revolve around the Sun in the same direction, and why all the major planets orbit in a flat plane.
10. Assemble experimental apparatus (telescope), make observations of sky, analyze and interpret data to test astronomical hypotheses and complete written laboratory reports.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Textbook: The Cosmic Perspective, Bennett et al. 6th, 7th or 8th edition
- (b) Other: Galileoscope (can be rented from the Bookstore)
Notebook (study notes) and Pocket Calculator

4. Course Content and Schedule

Midterm #1 – on Thursday, Oct.4, 2018

Midterm #2 – on Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018

Final Exam – held in the Final Exam period: Dec.10-18, 2018

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- (a) Homework assignments: these will be given at various times
- (b) Quizzes: Review quizzes often will be given. These will be marked immediately after doing the quiz. Since attendance is important quizzes will accepted for marking ONLY on the date given
(unless other arrangements are made prior to the quiz).
- (c) Exams: There will be two midterm exams (each counting 15% toward the course grade) and a Final Exam (which counts 30% toward the course grade).
- (c) Labs – These consist of a mixture of CLEA labs (Contemporary Laboratory Exercises in Astronomy) and other labs (to be handed out). The labs count for 30% of the grade.
- (d) Other (e.g. Project, Attendance, Group Work):

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

8. College Supports, Services and Policies



Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. **GRADING SYSTEMS** <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

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B. **Temporary Grades**

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.