

ASTR 1010 – Lab Syllabus

T.A.: Devin Silvia
Times: L – 111 Mondays 11:00 am – 12:50 pm
L – 116 Thursdays 9:00 am – 10:50 am
Location: Sommers-Bausch Observatory (SBO), Room: S-175
Office Hours: Mondays 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesdays 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
(Or by appointment, just send an email)
Office: Duane Physics, Room: E-122, TA Office
Office Phone: 303-492-5010
Email: devin.silvia@colorado.edu
Website: <http://mdbworks.net/devin/astr1010.html>

Lab Expectations:

- Pre-lab: Read all lab instructions before showing up to class each week. In addition, I may send out a pre-lab question (or two) during the weekend before the lab. If I send out such a question, you will be expected to have an answer to that question to turn in at the beginning of the lab. *Correct answers to pre-lab questions will count as one point of your total lab score for that week.*
- Bring your course textbook (as it can provide useful information to assist with the lab) and lab manual to every lab section.
- Familiarize yourself with the math required to carry out the calculations in the lab problems. In the front section of your lab manual (p. 7-24), you will find a short mathematical review, methods for unit conversion, and tips on using your calculator for these problems. If you have any questions about the math involved in these labs, please ask.
- Avoid being late to lab. If you are consistently late to lab, I will take points off of your lab scores. If there is an unavoidable conflict that is causing you to be late to lab, please talk to me.
- These labs are not optional. In order to pass the class, you must receive a passing grade in the lab section.

Lab Manuals:

Lab manuals are required to participate in these labs and can be purchased at the CU Bookstore.

Lab Reports (expectations and grading):

After the completion of each in-class lab, you will be expected to turn in a completed lab report one week later (at the beginning of the lab). If a lab is turned in late then points will be deducted for each day it is late. Any labs more than 1 week late will not be accepted. Each lab will be worth 10 points. At the end of the semester, your lowest lab grade will be dropped and will not count against you.

Lab reports must satisfy the following criteria:

- Must be written (or typed) on a separate sheet of paper.
- Should be neat, well organized, and easy to read. If I can't read your work I can't give you a grade for it.
- Answers need to be written in complete sentences.
- Include all data and calculations.
- All numerical answers must include correct units. Points will be deducted for missing or incorrect units.
- Questions should be answered completely.

Please refer to page 3 of the lab manual for more information about the type of work I am looking for on the lab write-ups.

If you have any questions concerning the grades you receive on your labs, please come talk to me.

I will not tolerate any form of cheating in these labs. While I understand that you will be working in groups during the in-class portion of the lab. I expect your lab reports to be your own work. If I discover that individuals have been cheating their grades will be adjusted accordingly.

Nighttime Observing Sessions:

In addition to the normal daytime labs, we will have five nighttime observing sessions for each lab section. You are all required to attend at least one of these nighttime labs. If you would like to attend additional nighttime sessions you are more than welcome to do so. You may also choose to attend a second nighttime observing session and substitute the grade you receive for the nighttime lab for one of your daytime labs grades. You can only substitute a maximum of one daytime lab grade.

The sessions will last approximately 1.5 hours and will be held on the following nights:

L - 111

Wed. Jan. 30th - 7:00 pm

Wed. Feb. 13th - 7:00 pm

Tue. Mar. 4th - 7:00 pm

Wed. Mar. 19th - 8:00 pm

Thu. Apr. 10th - 8:30 pm

L - 116

Mon. Feb. 4th - 7:00 pm

Mon. Feb. 18th - 7:00 pm

Thu. Mar. 6th - 7:00 pm

Mon. Mar. 31st - 8:30 pm

Tue. Apr. 15th - 8:30 pm

If the weather is poor or the sky is completely covered in clouds then these sessions may be cancelled. However, please try to contact me if you are curious if the session will be cancelled. You can also call the phone on the observing deck if you want to check on the status of the observing session – 303-492-2020. Remember to dress appropriately when attending these sessions. A link to the times of the sessions can be found on the website.

Final note:

If you ever have any questions relating to the lab section please feel free to ask. Email is generally the best way to reach me.