# ASTRONOMY 121. The Solar System

**Instructor:**

Jim Imamura  
444 Willamette Hall  
346-5212 (my office)  
346-5204 (I.T.S. office)  
imamura@physics.uoregon.edu

**Schedule:**

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**Class:**

- 100 Willamette Hall, 20682, MW 10:00-11:50  
- 182 Lillis Hall, 20681, TuTh 14:00-15:50

**Office Hours:**

- MW 14:00-15:50  
- TuTh 10:00-11:50  

or by appointment
Chaisson & McMillan, Astronomy Today, fifth edition

Grading:

Homework -- tba
2 exams -- 100 points/exam
1 final exam -- 200 points

total points - - 400+tba

The final will be comprehensive
A Pass is earned by a performance of C- or better

Exam Format:

Multiple choice
Astronomy Picture of the Day
Ant Cam
Shamu Cam
Coral Cam
saru no cam
NWS Weather Cameras


Discovery of an Earth-like Planet

General Remarks

Astronomy 121 is an introduction to the Solar System in which we examine how our knowledge base and thinking about the Solar System (and Solar System physics) have evolved over the years. The material covered will be:

- The Sky and the Development of Astrophysics (Chapters 1 and 2)
- The Solar System and its Formation (Chapters 6 and 15)
- The Terrestrial Planets (Chapters 7, 8, 9, and 10)
- The Jovian Planets (Chapters 11, 12, 13)
- Solar System Debris (Chapter 14)

Course administration details can be found in the course syllabus. The text, Astronomy Today by Chaisson & McMillan, is on reserve in the Knight Library. Send comments on the course via e-mail to imamura@physics.uoregon.edu.

Lecture Notes

- Topic 1: Introduction
- Topic 2: Motions in the Sky
- Topic 3: Development of Modern Astrophysics
- Topic 4: The Solar System
  - Part A: The Formation of the Solar System
  - Part B: Extra-Solar Planetary Systems?
- Topic 5: The Terrestrial Planets
  - Part A: Interiors of the Terrestrial Planets
  - Part B: Surface Features of the Terrestrial Planets
- **Part C**: Atmospheres of the Terrestrial Planets
- **Part D**: Atmospheric Evolution of the Terrestrial Planets
  - **Topic 6**: The Jovian Planets
    - **Part A**: Jupiter and Saturn
    - **Part B**: Uranus and Neptune

**Exam Dates**

**Exam Format: Multiple Choice Questions**

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| Exam 1: Thursday, February 9, 2006 | Exam 1: Wednesday, February 8, 2006 |
| Exam 2: Thursday, March 9, 2006 | Exam 2: Wednesday, March 8, 2006 |

| Final: 13:00, Wednesday, March 22, 2006 | Final: 10:15, Tuesday, March 21, 2006 |

**Old Exams and Review Sheets**

Tests: Sample 1, Sample 2, Sample 3, Sample Final 4;

Samples 1 & 2 $\rightarrow$ Test 1
Samples 2 & 3 $\rightarrow$ Test 2

Reviews: Review Test 1, Review Test 2, Final Review

**Assignments**

- **Homework 1**, due: January 18/19, 2006
- **Homework 2**, due: January 25/26, 2006
- **Homework 3**, due: February 1/2, 2006
- **Homework 4**, due: February 22/23, 2006
- **Homework 5**, due: March 1/2, 2006
- **Homework 6**, due: March 8/9, 2006
- **Homework 7**, due: March 15/16, 2006

The first date is for the MW class; the second date is for the TuTh class.

**Other Web Sites of Possible Interest**

- Astronomy 122
- Astronomy 123
- Astronomy Links