Astronomy 1 – Winter 2011
(MWF 12-12:50, Broida 1610)

Instructor:

Prof Tommaso Treu
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Office Hours: MW 2:30-3:30,
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Teaching Assistants:

Bill Wolf
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Both TAs have office hours in the Physics Study Room, Broida 1019 (ground floor behind the elevators). The PSR is open from 10:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday when classes are in session. There should be a TA in the PSR at all times, and any TA should be able to help you with problems in any Physics class.

Discussion sections:

M 5-5:50  PHELP 2516 (Wolf)
M 4-4:50  HSSB 1173 (Wolf)
W 6-6:50  PHELP 2516 (Joglekar)
F 1-1:50  PHELP 2516 (Wolf)
F 1:1:50  NH1105 (Joglekar)

Attendance at the discussion section is mandatory. TAs can help you with homework, and will work problems not in the homework, but similar to those that will be on the test.
**Required materials:**

i>Clicker (bring to class every day)

Universe, 9th edition, by Freedman, Geller, and Kaufmann. The bookstore carries a version that comes with the Starry Night Enthusiast CD at no additional charge. The CD is not required, but it may help you understand certain concepts in the course.

**Website:**

[www.physics.ucsb.edu/~tt/ASTRO1](http://www.physics.ucsb.edu/~tt/ASTRO1)

This will be an important source of information in the class, so check there every day or two for course updates, and be sure to regularly check your umail email account or have that email account redirected to one you frequently check.

**Grading:**

- Homework and Section Attendance and Participation: 25%,
- Midterm 1: 15%,
- Midterm 2: 15%,
- Class participation (iClicker) 5%,
- Final 40%.

A+: 95%; A:90%, A-:85%, B+:80%, B: 75%; B-:70%, C+: 60%, C:55%, C-:50%, D: 40%.

**Homework:**

Assignments and their due dates will be listed on the class webpage. You must show your work. You may work together on homework, but not copy. You must write yours up in your own words. Identical homework assignments will get a zero for both. The TAs will grade anywhere from one to a few problems on the homework, chosen at random, and give you credit if you made a reasonable attempt on the rest. So receiving a high grade on the homework does not necessarily mean you understand the material. Turn in the homework in the lock boxes in the hallway leading to the classroom. Use the box corresponding to the half of the alphabet of the first letter of
your last name. Late homework will not be accepted. The lowest score on homework will be discarded when computing each student’s grade.

iClickers:

iClickers are required, and you should bring them to every class. 5% of your grade will be based on class participation via iClickers (you get points for using the clickers – it doesn’t matter if you get the answer correct). You can miss, without penalty, five classes where iClickers were used (i.e. drop 5 Clicker “grades”).

Note on reading:

To get the most out of lectures, you should read the material before each lecture. The book has much more material in it than I can cover in class – if a topic is in the assigned reading, you are responsible for knowing it on the test.

For all exams:

Bring a #2 pencil and eraser, a ParSCORE Scantron sheet 8 1/2” x 11” size, red, form number F-1712, available at the Arbor, the UCSB Bookstore, and other outlets. Calculators are permitted on exams, but cell phones are not.

Final Exam:

Wednesday, March 16 2011, 12-3 pm. The final exam will cover all of the material in the course.

Note on math:

Note that this class will require math, including basic algebra, exponents, and scientific notation. It satisfies the University requirement for a quantitative science class. Math and physics are the basic tools of astronomy. Some students find this challenging. There are no prerequisites, but virtually every student can do well with lots of work and help from the instructor.

Approximate schedule. Will be available on the class website.