

Syllabus for Astronomy Lab 161 Spring 2009—Section 004&005

- I Instructor: Mengshu Liu
 - I Email: mliu8@utk.edu
 - I Office Hours: By appointment, 609 Nielsen Physics
 - I Classroom: 507 Nielson Physics
 - I Class time: 4:40-6:35 PM, Mon, for Section 004
& 8:00-9:55 AM, Tue, for Section 005
 - I Text: *A Laboratory Textbook for Introductory Astronomy* (7th Edition) –
Kermit E. Duckett
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Course Description

Astronomy 161 Lab is an experimental counterpart of your Astronomy 161 Lecture course, in which you will be able to get a more vivid vision of the astronomical principals taught in lectures, by doing experiments and observations.

Schedule

Week of	Lab Title	Lab Exercise
2009/1/12	Introduction to Meade 8" LX200 System Telescope Controls	
2009/1/19	MLK Jr. Holiday	
2009/1/26	Units and Conversions & Angles and Coordinates	Ex. 2 & Ex. 5
2009/2/2	Sidereal Time	Ex. 7
2009/2/9	Revolutions of the Moons of Jupiter	CLEA 1
2009/2/16	"The Sky" - An Intro to Stars and Constellations	S1
2009/2/23	Stellar Magnitude and Distance	Ex. 13
2009/3/2	Acceleration of Gravity	Ex. 8
2009/3/9	*T1-Celestial Observations Using the Telescope	
2009/3/16	Spring Break - No Labs	
2009/3/23	*T2-Astrophotography and the CCD Camera	
2009/3/30	Data Reduction - Photoshop Astronomy	T3
2009/4/6	Make-up Lab	
2009/4/13	Lab final	
2009/4/24	Class ends	

* These labs are conducted using the telescopes on the roof and will be held throughout the semester. These are mandatory labs for all students.

Lab Reports

Your reports should be handed in BEFORE the beginning of your next lab next week. Late reports will not be accepted or rated.

Attendance

The attendance is MANDATORY, and it will be checked. Generally, you are not permitted to do your experiments in another section. If you miss ONE lab without my permission, you will receive an incomplete for this lab. In case of emergency, you can make up your missing lab in my other section of labs (004 & 005) with a prior approval from me, or do it at the "Make-up lab" on 4/6. But these options are not recommended.

Grading

Lab Reports:	60%
Observations (T-labs):	20%
Lab Final:	20%

* Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please, also contact the Office of Disability Services at 865-974-6087 in Hoskins Library to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.