

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS AST 102IN STARS, GALAXIES, UNIVERSE

for textbook edition 11
Spring 2012 and after

NB: The letter "N" following the number of an assignment connotes that this assignment is to be done by the due date, but is Not actually handed in for scoring. Material included in the "N" assignments is testable as with the material in all other assignments.

On problems requiring calculations, you must show the calculation setups. The calculations themselves may be done with a calculator.

Chapters start with "Guideposts". Read them, even if the assignment says to start with Section 1. For example, Ass't. 3 says to read Ch. 2.1. You start with the Guidepost. Also: Read every "How Do We Know"

Reading part of assignments is given in left column.
Written part of assignments is given in right column.

At the ends of chapters: Review Questions: "Q"
Discussion Questions: "DQ"
Problems: "P"
Definitions: "D"

Foundational Assignment

Introductory Course Note Set

Due date: _____

question sheets (download from Course Downloads page, if not handed out.)

Assignment 1

"Study Tips: How to Study Astronomy" (handout)
Sagan article: "Why We Need to Understand Science" (handout)
How/know? 1.1: "...Scientific Method", p. 8
How/know? 2.1: "Scientific Models", p. 17
How/know? 2.4: "Sci Arguments", p. 28
What Are We?: "Basic Scientists", p. 522

Due date: _____

question sheet (download)
question sheet (download)

list significant points
list significant points
list significant points
list significant points

Assignment 2

How/know? 2.3: "Evidence...Foundation", p. 27
How/know? 4.2: "Hyp., Theory, & Law", p. 66
How/know? 5.2: "Testing...by Prediction", p. 89
How/know? 8.1: "Scientific Confidence", p. 153
How/know? 18.2: "A System of Knowledge" p. 380
How/know? 19.2: "Courteous Skeptics", p. 419
How/know? 2.2: "Pseudoscience", p. 25

Due date: _____

list significant points
distinguish between the three
list significant points
list significant points
list significant points + optional personal response
list significant points
list significant points + optional personal response

Assignment 3

Due date: _____

Ch. 2.1, "The Stars" and 2.2, "The Celestial Sphere", pp. 11-16

Ch. 6.1, "Radiation: Info from Space", pp. 98-101

Ch. 7.1, "Starlight", pp. 122-125; sub-section

"Lum., Radius, and Temp." in Ch. 9.3, pp. 173-174

"Kirchhoff's Laws" back in Ch. 7, p. 132

Focus on Fundamentals: "Temp, Heat, Thermal Energy", p. 128

Q. 1,2; P. 1,2,4 (HINT: Get answers from Table 2.1 on p.16.);
D. celestial sphere

P. 2; D. nanometer, Angstrom, cosmic rays

Q. 8; P. 1-4

List significant points

TEST 1 Date: _____

Assignment 3N

Due date: _____

Ch. 7.2, "Interactions...Light & Matter" to end of Chapter, pp. 126-140, skip Kirchhoff's Laws on p. 132

How/know? 22.1: "Data Manipulation", p. 469

How/know? 21.1: "How...Unify the Details", p. 448

How/know? 8.1: "Scientific Confidence, p. 153

How/know? 8.2: "Confirmation+Consolidation," p. 160

Ch. 6.2, "Optical Telescopes" to end of chapter, pp. 101-119

Q. 2,5,11; P. 6-9; D. molecule

list significant points

list significant points

list significant points

list significant points

Q. 1,4,7; D. seeing, CCD

Assignment 4

Due date: _____

Ch. 1, "The Scale of the Cosmos", pp. 1-9

Ch. 9, "The Family of Stars", pp. 167-173 up to Sub-section, "Lum, Radius, Temp" of Sec 9.3 (Covered in Ass't. 3)

Q. 2,4,5,6; P. 7,8 (use 100,000 ly for the MW's diameter)

Q. 1,6; P. 1 (skip AU),3 (distance & parallax columns only),5-8,10
(You may use Table 2.1 on page 16 and Table 9.1 on page 172)

D. proper motion

TEST 2 Date: _____

Assignment 5

Due date: _____

Ch. 9.4, "The Masses of Stars", pp. 178-185

Ch. 9.5, "A Survey of Stars", pp. 185-189

"Stellar Populations," in Ch. 15.5, p. 319,322

including Fig. 15.22 and Table 15.1, pp. 322

Ch. 10, "The Interstellar Medium", pp. 192-207

Ch. 11, "The Formation of Stars", pp. 210-229

How/know? 9.1: Chains of Inference, p. 180

How/know? 10.1: "Facts from Hypotheses", p. 202

Q. 7; P. 11

P. 15

Q. 5; P. 2; D. emission nebula, reflection nebula, dark nebula

Q. 8,10; P. 11; D. neutrino (See glossary.)

list significant points

list significant points

Assignment 6

Due date: _____

Ch. 12, "Stellar Evolution", pp. 232-252

How/know? 12.1: "Mathematical Models", p. 235

How/know? 23.2: "Who Pays for Sci?", p. 534

How/know? 24.1: "Sci Discoveries", p. 528

Q. 1,2,5,8-12; P. 2 (ages in years); D. open (or "galactic") clusters

list significant points

list significant points

list significant points

Assignment 6N

Due date: _____

NOTE: The problems only in this assignment may be handed in for extra credit.

Ch. 13, "The Deaths of Stars", pp. 255-276

Q. 1-3,6,8,9,11; P. 1,4; D. Chandrasekhar limit, supernovas of both Types I and II

Ch. 14, "Neutron Stars & Black Holes", pp. 279-299

Q. 2,7,17; P. 1 (HINT: $C=2\pi R$),7; D. black hole, event horizon, R_S , time dilation, gravitational red shift

How/know? 11.1: "Theories & Proof", p. 215

list significant points

How/know? 14.1: "Fraud in Science", p. 295

list significant points

How/know? 26.1: "Nature of Sci Explanation," p. 583

list significant points + optional personal response

TEST 3 **Date:** _____

Assignment 7

Due date: _____

Ch. 26, subsection "Life in Other Planetary Systems" to end," p. 594-600

Q. 10-13,17; P. 4 (ignore textbook hints; just estimate answer to nearest subclass from info given in Table 12.2, p. 239) ,5 (Here's how: calculate volume, then multiply by # of stars per volume); D. life habitable zone, SETI

How/know? 25.1: "Selection Effects", p. 555

list significant points

How/know? 18.1: "Reasoning/Analogy", p. 372

list significant points

Assignment 8

Due date: _____

Ch. 15, "The Milky Way", (except "Stellar Pops", covered in Ass't. 5), pp. 302-327

Q. 1,2,6 P. 2 (Note: $A=\pi r^2$ and compare the two areas), 9

Ch. 16, "Galaxies", pp. 330-352

Q. 1,5,6,8; P. 6

How/know? 7.1: "Quantum Mechanics", p. 125

list significant points

Assignment 8N

Due date: _____

Ch. 17, "Galaxies w/Active Nuclei," pp. 355-366

Q. 2,5,6,9; P. 1 (Note: express "c" in m/s)

How/know? 17.1: "Statistical Evidence", p. 357

list significant points

Ch. 18, "Cosmology", pp. 369-393

Q. 4,5,8,9;14; D. flatness

TEST 4 **Date:** _____

Assignment 9

Due date: _____

"Afterword", pp. 615,616

list significant points—hand in with Test 4

"Never regard study as a duty but as an enviable opportunity to learn...for your personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later works belong."

— Albert Einstein