Course Prefix and Number: PHSC 110
Credit Hours: 3

Course Title: Astronomy

Course Prerequisites: None

Textbook: Schneidre/Arny; Explorations, An Introduction to Astronomy 7th edition

Course Description:

A non-mathematical, descriptive introduction to astronomy, with emphasis on the solar system and related topics

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the student will

A. utilize scientific concepts to describe astronomical bodies and theories and describe the relationship of the earth to the universe; and
B. apply critical thinking to the analysis of current developments in astronomy theory and to the understanding of astronomical events.

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will

1. express and understanding for a variety of objects in the universe and a sense of scale. (A,B)
2. describe the theories of the universe developed and held during the millennia of recorded history. (A)
3. describe the development of modern astronomy during the 17th century through the ideas of Kepler, Galileo, Newton and Halley. (A)
4. explain the electromagnetic spectrum and the different types of observing techniques used in astronomy. (A)
5. describe how astronomers locate objects in the sky, and time zone calendars. (A)
6. recognize and identify constellations of the Northern Hemisphere and their bright stars. (A)
7. discuss scale, structure and origins of the sun and solar system. (A,B)
8. describe and understand the earth on a planetary scale. (B)
9. describe the basic characteristics of the known planets, asteroids, and comets. (A)
10. identify and list characteristics of our sun, the types of stars, Milky Way and the interstellar medium. (A)
11. research and orally present on an astronomical object or current astronomy topic. (A,B)
**Course Requirements:** To earn a grade of “C” or higher the student must earn 70% of the total points for the course and meet all of the following course requirements.
- minimum 60% average on tests
- minimum score of 60% on topic presentation in class

**Course Grading Scale:**

A- 90% or more of the total points possible for the semester and meet all minimum course requirements

B- 80% or more of the total points possible for the semester and meet all minimum course requirements

C- 70% or more of the total points possible for the semester and meet all minimum course requirements

D- 60% or more of the total points possible for the semester and meet all minimum course requirements.

F- less than 60% of the total points possible for the semester and/or failure to meet one or more of the minimum course requirements

**Attendance Policy:** The college attendance policy is available at [http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html](http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html)

**Nondiscrimination Statement**

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**Title VI, Section 504, and ADA Coordinator**
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**Equity/Compliance Coordinator**
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Reviewed by T. Breeland-Southam/ April 2017