

Ay 7A - Fall 2009 - Section 103 Monday 1–2pm - 264 Evans

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Office Hours: 2:30–3:30pm Mondays, TALC 5–7pm Wednesdays, and by appointment

Cheating

Just don't do it. I promise you'll get caught and then bad, bad things will happen. The official policy is at <http://astro.berkeley.edu/academics/cheating.html>.

TALC (The Astronomy Learning Center)

TALC is where you can work on homework in an informal, group setting. It is staffed by two GSIs who serve as guides. TALC will be Wednesdays 5–7pm in 264 Evans. It is a great place to work on the homework, but you must start the problems before you come. Before coming to your first TALC please read the Rules of TALC: <http://astro.berkeley.edu/resources/campbell/talc/rules.pdf>.

Classroom Atmosphere

It'll definitely be relaxed and relatively informal in my section, but let's make sure to keep it civil and respectful in here. I don't expect this to be an issue, but you never know. So let's just all be nice to each other and act like the young adults that we are. "Can't we all just get along?"

Disability-Related Accommodations

If you need disability-related accommodations, if you have emergency medical information you should share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case of an evacuation, please inform me and Prof. Chiang immediately (you can see me privately after class, in my office, or e-mail me).

Other Administrative-type Questions?

REFER TO THE CLASS WEBSITE: <http://astro.berkeley.edu/~echiang/Astro7A/7A.html>. If you still have a question/comment/complaint then feel free to e-mail me. Also, **please make sure that you are available on the dates of the midterms and final as soon as possible.**

Goals

I want you to learn the basics of how we apply physics and mathematics to astronomy. Specifically, I want you to understand orbital motion, how light propagates and is collected for observation and analysis, and the structure and evolution of stars. Finally, I want you to **have fun** and to gain some of the same appreciation and love of astronomy that I've had since I was a kid.

"It's been said that Astronomy is a humbling, and I might add, a character-building experience."
—Carl Sagan, American astronomer (1934–1996)

"Most people today still believe, perhaps unconsciously, in the heliocentric universe; every newspaper in the land has a section on astrology, yet few have anything at all on astronomy."
—Hannes Alfvén, Swedish physicist (1908–1995)