

JHU - Krieger School of Arts & Sciences / Whiting School of Engineering
ASEN.2022.Spring.Full Semester Term 4

Course: AS.270.114.01.SP22: Guided Tour: The Planets
Instructor: Kevin Lewis * ,David Sing
Response Rate: 86/90 (95.56 %)

| 1 - The overall quality of this course is: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|--------|------------|----------|--------|------------|--|
| Response Option | | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | |
| Poor | | (1) | 3 | 3.57% | | | | | | | | |
| Weak | | (2) | 7 | 8.33% | | | | | | | | |
| Satisfactory | | (3) | 11 | 13.10% | | | | | | | | |
| Good | | (4) | 38 | 45.24% | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent | | (5) | 23 | 27.38% | | | | | | | | |
| N/A | | (0) | 2 | 2.38% | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | School | Department | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | School | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | |
| 84/90 (93.33%) | 3.87 | 1.04 | 4.00 | 17307 | 4.19 | 0.96 | 4.00 | 290 | 4.32 | 0.89 | 5.00 | |

| 2 - The instructor's teaching effectiveness is: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|--------|------------|----------|--------|------------|--|
| Kevin Lewis | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Response Option | | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | |
| Poor | | (1) | 3 | 3.66% | | | | | | | | |
| Weak | | (2) | 3 | 3.66% | | | | | | | | |
| Satisfactory | | (3) | 10 | 12.20% | | | | | | | | |
| Good | | (4) | 32 | 39.02% | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent | | (5) | 32 | 39.02% | | | | | | | | |
| N/A | | (0) | 2 | 2.44% | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | School | Department | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | School | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | |
| 82/90 (91.11%) | 4.09 | 1.01 | 4.00 | 19376 | 4.23 | 1.01 | 5.00 | 405 | 4.33 | 0.91 | 5.00 | |

| 3 - The intellectual challenge of this course is: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|--------|------------|----------|--------|------------|--|
| Response Option | | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | |
| Poor | | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | |
| Weak | | (2) | 3 | 3.61% | | | | | | | | |
| Satisfactory | | (3) | 24 | 28.92% | | | | | | | | |
| Good | | (4) | 37 | 44.58% | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent | | (5) | 17 | 20.48% | | | | | | | | |
| N/A | | (0) | 2 | 2.41% | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | School | Department | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | School | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | |
| 83/90 (92.22%) | 3.84 | 0.80 | 4.00 | 17115 | 4.27 | 0.82 | 4.00 | 288 | 4.21 | 0.80 | 4.00 | |

| 4 - The teaching assistant for this course is: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|--------|------------|----------|--------|------------|--|
| Response Option | | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | |
| Poor | | (1) | 4 | 4.88% | | | | | | | | |
| Weak | | (2) | 2 | 2.44% | | | | | | | | |
| Satisfactory | | (3) | 8 | 9.76% | | | | | | | | |
| Good | | (4) | 27 | 32.93% | | | | | | | | |
| Excellent | | (5) | 20 | 24.39% | | | | | | | | |
| N/A | | (0) | 21 | 25.61% | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | School | Department | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | School | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | |
| 82/90 (91.11%) | 3.93 | 1.09 | 4.00 | 17036 | 4.31 | 0.94 | 5.00 | 286 | 4.21 | 0.99 | 4.00 | |

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5 - Please enter the name of the TA you evaluated in question 4:

| Response Rate | 40/90 (44.44%) |
|---------------|----------------|
|---------------|----------------|

- Tyler Perez and Ai Siddiqui
- Tyler Perez
- Tyler Perez
- Ali
- Tyler Perez
- Tyler Matthew Perez
- Tyler Perez
- Tyler Perez
- Tyler
- Ali Siddiqui
- Tyler Perez
- x
- Ali Siddiqui, tyler perez
- N/A
- All of them
- Ali Hasan Siddiqui
- Tyler Perez, Ali Siddiqui
- Tyler Perez, Ali Siddiqui
- no TA
- Tyler/Ali
- N/A
- n/a
- Ali Hasan Siddiqui
- Tyler Perez, Ali Siddiqui
- Paul Kuhn
- Tyler and Ali
- Ali Hasan Siddiqui
- Alan Siddique
- N/A
- Tyler Perez and Ali Siddique
- tyler and ali
- Tyler Perez
- Tyler / Ali
- Ali Hasan Siddiqui, Tyler Perex
- Ali Hasan Siddiqui and Tyler Perez
- Ali Saddiqui, Tyler Perez
- Don't remember but I know there were two who put on a good exam review
- Ali
- N/A
- Nathan Aldman

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6 - Feedback on my work for this course is useful:

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|------|--------|------------|----------|--------|------------|--|--|
| Disagree strongly | (1) | 5 | 6.10% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Disagree somewhat | (2) | 15 | 18.29% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Neither agree nor disagree | (3) | 21 | 25.61% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree somewhat | (4) | 23 | 28.05% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree strongly | (5) | 10 | 12.20% | | | | | | | | | | |
| N/A | (0) | 8 | 9.76% | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | School | Department | | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | School | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | | |
| 82/90 (91.11%) | 3.24 | 1.13 | 3.00 | 16995 | 4.04 | 1.05 | 4.00 | 284 | 3.93 | 1.07 | 4.00 | | |

7 - Compared to other Hopkins courses at this level, the workload for this course is:

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|------|--------|------------|----------|--------|------------|--|--|
| Much lighter | (1) | 1 | 1.22% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat lighter | (2) | 26 | 31.71% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Typical | (3) | 39 | 47.56% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat heavier | (4) | 14 | 17.07% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Much heavier | (5) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | |
| N/A | (0) | 2 | 2.44% | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | School | Department | | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | School | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | | |
| 82/90 (91.11%) | 2.83 | 0.73 | 3.00 | 17012 | 3.14 | 0.93 | 3.00 | 284 | 2.94 | 0.74 | 3.00 | | |

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8 - What are the best aspects of this course?

| Response Rate | 54/90 (60%) |
|---------------|-------------|
|---------------|-------------|

- I think it's a really good introductory course. It does exactly as promised, give a general overview of the planets and solar system. The homework and reading quizzes are really manageable and the exams are very fair and easy to do well on.
- Cool material... sometimes
- The interesting material.
- Interesting material, available to all types of students
- The topics are very interesting. The homeworks make sense with what we are learning.
- NA
- It is a comprehensive view of the planets.
- Good background for anyone not super into natural sciences who wants to learn about the planets
- interesting homework content
- Really cool how you didn't need to come into course without knowledge of course.
- You get to learn about our solar system and the course does not put a lot of stress on students. The homeworks are generally fair to the student and the exams can easily be prepared for if the student studied the lectures well.
- Interesting subject matter
- N/A
- excitement of instructors to talk about the materials/their work
- Course material is very interesting and refreshing compared to my other classes. Also really enjoyed Kevin's lectures and learning about his rovers.
- Interesting HW assignments.
- Interesting Topics
- The knowledgeable, experienced, and passionate professors.
- The reading quizzes are useful and not too challenging.
- planets are cool
- The professors were both very enthusiastic about the topic.
- You get to learn a lot about planets and the professors show you their real research
- I like the layout of the class, we went through each planet thoroughly and had homework assignments for each one. I also liked how the lectures were always recorded so I could rewatch them if needed. It didn't go to in depth into astronomy but I think I learned a lot. It was also very beginner level, as promised. I also like how much the professors cared about their students, enough to make the final exam be online. They are all really nice people and are passionate about what they teach/study.
- Interesting subject matter
- The topic, the introductory look at the universe, the homework assignments are interesting and unique
- The Professors are clearly very knowledgeable and passionate about the material which makes for great lectures. The homework assignments aren't particularly difficult.
- Interesting material
- Flexibility
- Easy course material, interesting lectures, easy tests.
- Cool and interesting subject matter. The professors have great insights into the latest in astronomy and space exploration.
- This course is very well organized and has interesting material.
- Super interesting to learn a lot about the solar system while not going into too much detail.
- Interesting information; Ali is an awesome TA
- Loved the material, loved how engaged and interested in the material the professors were. Lectures were enjoyable and even the homework was interesting.
- Recorded Lectures, reading quizzes
- Interesting material on the planets, and other parts of the solar system
- This course is so interesting! I actually enjoyed studying for the tests lol.
- Professors were very accommodating of students' health concerns during the spike in Covid cases during finals week.
- The weekly quizzes did not eat up a lot of time to complete and they helped introduce the topics discussed in each lecture. There was ample time given to complete the homeworks, and the homeworks were extremely engaging/interactive and helped me understand the key concepts from lectures.
- Really enjoyed the content we learned. Wish I had taken this course in my freshman year because I would have switched to an Earth Science major in a heart beat.
- The best aspects of this course are the breadth of interesting topics covered, and the passion and engagement of the lecturers.
- The course content
- Learnt about the latest updates on missions the professors are currently working on. Very interesting Home works
- the lectures paired with reading quizzes are very effective to learning and channeling focus into what we are learning in a particular day in class
- Honestly, this course is not good. I suppose that the best aspect is exposing students to details about the planets.
- Very interesting topic, I thought the homeworks done were unique and interactive and helped me better understand the material.
- I enjoyed the enthusiasm which the teachers brought to their lessons, and the breadth of the course.
- The material and the updates on current missions (rover on Mars)

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- Great overview taught by brilliant professors.
- Most homework assignments were engaging and fun to complete, like the ones where we observed exoplanets and surfaces of other planets and moons.
- none
- Updates on current astronomical events.
- The best aspect of this course was the interesting course material. It was great to learn about planetary bodies in space.
- Dude, you don't have to show up. Just look up at the sky and observe the immaculate heavens which God had bestowed upon us. I performed this ritual nightly, at least 2 hours, 4 on the weekends. The satanist clouds may obscure your vision, but God's light inevitably shines through to grace us with His knowledge. For what is the Moon but His glory unfurled? The sun his splendor, the stars his children, and each planet his domain. Let us pray. Dear Allah, your gravity and ellipses confuse us so, but as we reflect upon the dark pool of uncertainty, the splendor of each and every celestial body reflects into the heart of each man, woman, and child. Your laws of motion which so carefully guide each and every planet simultaneously guide each of your children towards salvation. May we not be defined by the craters of our hearts, but by its many chambers and valves which fill us with your splendor. Amen.

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9 - What are the worst aspects of this course?

Response Rate 54/90 (60%)

- I don't really have any complaints.
- Unreasonably difficult at times
- The mass amounts of memorization is a personal negative for me. I was not used to it in courses before this, but it isn't too bad if you just go through the course material and memorize important points before an exam.
- Slow grading, no feedback on assignments
- There isn't a lot of material to prepare for exams.
- NA
- The professors do not post slides on time.
- Realistically, it's a largely memorization based course. We were under the impression that the exams would be online and open note until the middle of the review session, but it ended up being in person as a closed book exam which was kind of antithetical to how many students studied for it, since memorization courses aren't really all that interesting vv exams.
- zoom lectures
- The midterm was quite difficult. And if we have online classes it seems unfair to have tests in person.
- The instructors are unresponsive sometimes and is unclear to the students.
- Exams were quite difficult
- N/A
- I would have appreciated some sort of email reminder for weekly deadlines, especially reading quizzes. Sometimes quizzes aren't posted until a couple days before they're due, and since they're not posted on a consistent schedule, it was incredibly easy to forget to do them and miss out on those points.
- Sometimes hard to hear lecturer.
- Unclear what contents will be on the exam, leading to massive amount of memorization (~40-80 page word docs) for exams, especially the final.
- Exams are difficult
- Too much information that needed to be memorized. Unaccommodating to COVID
- The lectures contain immense amounts of factual information that is impossible to memorize entirely for the exams.
- its a science course which i'm not into
- It took a long time to get homework grades back.
- the exams were a lot of pure memorization
- I don't have many complaints. It was pretty straight forward. The reading quizzes kept me on track and the lectures were very in depth.
- Midterm
- Exams require a lot of memorization
- The pre-lecture reading quizzes are annoying. Easy to forget about.
- Grading is not quick
- Professors take a while to respond - course structure is redundant throughout the semester; a lot of dense material on planets, primarily memorization based
- Homeworks were somewhat confusing, too little review sections, professors were sometimes hard to reach.
- Exams are very reliant on regurgitation of sometimes very specific astronomy facts.
- Exams were stremely detailed instead of focusing on the main concepts.
- very long made it hard to pay attention.
- A LOT of information, very detailed questions on exams
- only complaint is the online classes were sometimes boring. if it was in person it would be a lot better (i know this is not anyones fault though).
- Lack of review guides, closed-note exams
- A lot of memorization required
- Need to memorize a lot of details for the tests
- The online format was a bit disorganized and did not motivate me to attend classes. Because the professors were conducting the Zoom session from a classroom setting and sharing one laptop for the both of them, the audio was not clear as it would have been if they were teaching from their own spaces and calling in on their own devices.
- Nothing
- None
- The material of this class was not fully reinforced through homework assignments, which had a much more limited scope than the exams, and as a result, the format of the exams and the correct manner to study for them was not clear.
- There is too much content
- No worst aspects
- n/a
- This was supposed to be a course that showed non-STEM kids how the solar system worked. But the teachers never met the kids at their level -- rather jumbling together convoluted slides about various concepts that went way over most people's heads. Rote memorization was the norm. There was very rarely any class engagement or appeal to interest. It took the professors and TAs well over a month to grade each assignment, so students had no idea how they were doing.
- A little too much content to remember in a short period of time.
- The lectures could be more engaging/easier to follow.

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10 - What would most improve this class?

| Response Rate | 49/90 (54.44%) |
|---------------|----------------|
|---------------|----------------|

- I'm sure it'll improve with in-person teaching next year, but I don't have any other suggestions.
- More straightforward material less memorization more comprehension
- Can't think of much, really.
- Weekly quizzes might be helpful to avoid cramming for midterm and final
- Maybe some review materials for exams.
- NA
- More prompt posting of slides and clear instructions.
- Open note exams with questions that don't require you to know the current phase of the moon?
- changing zoom lectures to in-person
- More focus on extraterrestrial life.
- Better preparation for exams
- N/A
- More structure in terms of assignments.
- Better audio.
- Easier exams
- Prepare for online or open note exams...too much content to be simply memorized.
- The exams should be open note.
- idk
- N/A
- Make more of the exam questions open ended as the multiple choice asked a little too specific things and was difficult to study for
- I would maybe add a discussion section in addition to the lectures so we can go over course material. Something to create a space for students to pose questions.
- If the midterm focused less on trivia and more on conceptual knowledge
- A cheat sheet for exams
- Faster grading
- better lecturing methods
- Better communication, more clarity on homeworks and release dates of reading quizzes.
- Exams could be more focused on assessing general understanding of the systems of astronomy instead of including some questions that rely on rote memorization.
- n/a
- maybe make it three times a week and 50 minute classes?
- More emphasis on important points, because it seems a bit hard to have to manage all the information presented in class.
- Open-note exams
- Less focus on memorization and more on the concepts
- Nothing
- Provide a review session/slide review for the midterm exam (not only the final exam)
- None
- Releasing practice exams would be helpful in giving students an idea of the level of understanding that would be required on exams.
- More frequent testing
- More reviews sessions before the examinations.
- n/a
- Making it engaging -- there's a reason the students in this class are predominantly not STEM! Simply reiterating concepts isn't enough, you have to make them digestable and fun.
- It was tough having it online but I understand that it was necessary, it sometimes conflicted with my schedule.
- The class might be improved if some of the lectures were restructured to focus on fewer topics, especially those with more general implications rather than those with only niche importances.
- Nothing in my opinion
- Projects or interactive modules?
- Maybe a second midterm so so much material isn't crammed onto one.
- Operating on titme
- Projects.
- Post lecture slides before class.
- Rum

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11 - What should prospective students know about this course before enrolling? (You may comment on any aspect of this course such as assumed background, readings, grading systems, and so on.)

| Response Rate | 49/90 (54.44%) |
|---------------|----------------|
|---------------|----------------|

- Workload is super manageable, especially for non-STEM majors who the course is targeted at.
- Harder than you would think
- There is lots of memorization.
- No background necessary
- It doesn't take a lot of your time and the professors are very nice.
- NA
- somewhat disorganized. Be prepared for random crap to happen
- no prior planetary knowledge is required
- Exams are tough but curve makes it fair.
- This course is very fun and should be taken.
- Some prior knowledge of the planetary system might be helpful
- N/A
- No scientific/astronomy background needed
- Interesting and fun class.
- Lots of memorization.
- Very fun
- Memorization heavy.
- The exams are extremely thorough and challenging, do not be fooled by the 'easy' nature of the class.
- its harder than you think!
- N/A
- There's a lot of memorization in this class but not too much work.
- I would say its great for humanities and social sciences students. Not much reading, not much homework, just make sure you pay attention because the exams are super difficult if you don't.
- Very interesting course and very manageable workload
- It is an introductory course about the universe, doable for students from all fields. Exams require the memorization of lots of facts.
- Pretty easy workload, but the midterms will require some studying. It's not necessarily the easy-A that it's known to be.
- Tests are mostly memorization
- A LOT of memorization; final is cumulative
- No background in astronomy is necessary, although a basic knowledge of the solar system is helpful. There is almost no reading for this course, and grading is extremely fair.
- No assumed background in earth/planetary science or any other sciences.
- everyone says this course is easy, but it is now. The exams are quite detailed and difficult in my opinion. I would attend class and make flashcards in order to do well.
- fun class no science background necessary.
- lots of information...
- Might be a little more work than expected, isn't an easy A.
- This course is beginner-friendly!
- Very interesting class! The professors and TAs are great. Study early in advance for the exams
- No background in any planetary science is needed and there is very minimal math involved
- Great course! definitely recommend
- Take frequent notes
- Have interest in the study of space and then choose the course.
- this is a very interesting course!!
- Don't take it under the guise it's an easy A!
- This was a very interesting course and is something I feel was useful to know.
- Students should know that this is a good class to get an introduction to astronomy, but should only take it if they have a vested interest in learning to a fair depth about the topics.
- There are generally two quizzes every week and it's useful to do homework assignments early before they are do as some of them require multiple days to finish
- Great for an introduction!
- Pretty engaging and interesting course even if you don't need a class on planetary science. Probably requires more reading than you would expect but overall a fun course.
- Do not take this course
- Prospective students should know that no background is needed to take this course. There are readings that you must complete before every lecture in order to answer questions on the reading quizzes that take place before class. Homework assignments are worth the majority of your grade (40%). You have two exams (midterm and final exam) which are each worth 25%. Exams are also curved. Reading quizzes are worth 10%. Overall, this course isn't too challenging. As long as you don't fall behind on the content, this course is not overwhelming as compared to other Hopkins classes.

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• Mattress Discounters is having a 30% off sale with purchase of 2 qualifying mattresses size queen or larger starting July 20th. Enter promo code MattNow at MattressDiscounters.org to redeem one free bedspread with proof of online purchase. Offer ends November 3rd, participating retailers subject to change, no rebates all sales are final.