

Mayville State University

PHYS 110 Introduction to Astronomy Lab On-Campus

Spring 2025
Credit Hours: 1

Course and Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Jeff Hovde

Contact Information:

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Email: jeffrey.hovde@mayvillestate.edu

Hours of Availability: By appointment

Instruction Mode: Face to Face

Time: Tu 6:00 p.m. All times indicated throughout this syllabus reflect Central Time (CT).

Course Materials and Technologies

Required

Starry Night College Norton Edition

Course Description

Two hours lab per week. Lab experiments, computer explorations, and telescope observations will be included. Field experiences required.

Prerequisite: None.

Course Objectives

The content covered in this course is the following:

The goals of the MSU Science program are to present current information on aspects of the physical world and to develop logical reasoning, sometimes mathematical, relating one process to another. Introductory Astronomy prepares students to explain the basic principles of astronomy and its relationships to other disciplines, to describe different scientific models and how these models are used to stimulate scientific inquiry, and to identify the assumptions and limitations of scientific writing/reporting.

Students who have completed this course should be aligned to Composite Science Education Program Approval Standards through North Dakota's Education Standards and Practices Board ([ND ESPB](#)):

- Be able to observe and interpret astronomical information in both indoor and outdoor settings
- Determine a hands-on method to study the observational science of astronomy

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- Make observations in an outdoor setting using unaided eyes or telescopes
- Make use of indoor labs to learn about telescopes and how they work
- Monitor celestial movement across the skies

Standards Alignment (Composite Science Education Program Approval Standards-ND ESPB):

- 13047.1 Composite Science Major/General Science The composite/general science program requires that environmental science be incorporated within other courses or as a separate course. The composite/general science program requires: 1. Coursework in biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science, including: a. Minimum of twenty four semester hours in one area, b. Minimum of twelve semester hours in two other areas, c. Minimum of four semester hours in the fourth area, d. Courses must be from those that the institution allows toward graduation in the science major. 2. Study of mathematics through the pre-calculus level (college algebra and above) and statistics

Course Expectations

Submit all assignments in Blackboard on designated due dates.

There will be NO make-up labs unless I have been contacted prior to the day of the test with a valid excuse. There are very few valid excuses so do not assume that your excuse is sufficient.

Instructor/Student Communication

Students are accountable for all academic communications sent to their Mayville State University email address.

Do not email me to inform me of the grade that you need for the course.

I will reply to all student emails within 48 hours. Email is the best way to contact me.

Assignments and Assessments

All assignments are to be completed by, and only by, the person who is registered for the course.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading Policies

I will grade all work within 1 week.

Attendance/Participation Policies

Attendance will not be graded.

Grading Scale

90 – 100%	A
80 – 89.9%	B
70 – 79.9%	C
60 – 69.9%	D

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Breakdown of Grades

Labs: 200 points

Enrollment Verification

On-Campus Course Statement

The U.S. Department of Education requires instructors to conduct an activity which will validate student enrollment in this course. Class attendance will be used to verify enrollment in on-campus courses. If you do not attend, your enrollment in this course will be at risk.

Important Student Information

In the Announcements section of the Blackboard Institution Page, you can view and download the Important Student Information document for the current academic year. It includes information about:

- ✓ Land Acknowledgement Statement
- ✓ Academic Grievance Concerns and Instructor English Proficiency
- ✓ NetTutor - Online Tutoring Program
- ✓ Starfish - Student Success System
- ✓ Students with Documented Disabilities
- ✓ Student Learning Outcomes / Essential Learning Outcomes
- ✓ Academic Honesty
- ✓ Emergency Notification
- ✓ Continuity of Academic Instruction for a Pandemic or Emergency
- ✓ Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
- ✓ Diversity Statement (Title IX)

Course Timeline/Schedule

Final Exam: None

The above schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change with prior notice given to students in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Essential Studies

As part of Mayville State University's Essential Studies curriculum, this course seeks to prepare students for twenty-first century challenges by gaining: 1) Knowledge of human cultures; 2) Intellectual and practical skills; 3) Personal and social responsibility; 4) Integrative and applied learning.