

# MAYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**AST 152A 10**

**1-6-07**

**PO Box 547**

**or**

**200 Mayland Drive**

**Spruce Pine, NC 28777**

**828-765-7351 or 1-800-462-9526**

**<http://www.mayland.edu>**

**MAYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Welcomes You To:**

**AST 152A 10  
General Astronomy I  
Credit: 1 Contact: 2**

**Course Description**

This course is a laboratory to accompany AST 151. Emphasis is placed on laboratory experiences which enhance the materials presented in AST 151 and which provide practical experience. Upon completion students should be able to demonstrate a general understanding of the solar system. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in natural sciences/mathematics*

**Prerequisites:** RED 090

**Corequisites :** None

**Instructor Information**

**Instructor:** David Pittman  
**Office Location:** 103b  
**Telephone Number:** 765-7351 ext. 284  
**E-mail Address:** dpittman@mayland.edu  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30 – 11:00  
Wednesdays 4:00 – 5:00  
Fridays 9:00 – 11:00

**Course Information**

**Course meetings:** MW 9:00 – 9:50  
**Required Text(s):** Universe, Freedman, 7<sup>th</sup> ed.  
**LRC Resources:** none  
**Required supplies:** **Starry Night CD-ROM**

**Course Objectives/Competencies:**

Astronomy is the scientific study of matter in the universe, especially the positions, distributions, motions, dimensions, compositions, energies and evolutions of celestial

bodies and phenomena. In this class we perform various experiments and simulations to gain a fuller understanding of the mechanics of our solar system. By the end of the semester we should be competent in a variety of topics including: the formation of the solar system, the sun, stars, galaxies and the larger universe.

### **Attendance Policy/Tardiness/Make-Up Work:**

Prompt and continual attendance is required. **All assignments are due 'on time'.** **Students will receive a zero for any assignment not turned in on time,** a makeup opportunity will not be allowed, except for authorized excuses (such as notes from a doctor or hospital, proof will be required).

### **Grading Criteria/Tests/Projects:**

Laboratory Assignments 50%  
Quizzes 50%

### **Grading Scale:**

**A** =>90  
**B** =>80 < 90  
**C** =>70 < 80  
**D** =>60 < 70  
**F** <60

### **Inclement Weather Procedures:**

If we experience dangerous weather conditions do not risk your safety to attend class. Any classes that are missed due to weather will be made up, at a time that is satisfactory to all. If class is cancelled on a date that an assignment is due, the assignment will become due at the next class meeting.

### **Academic Standards/Student Expectations/Ethics:**

Do your own work. Be cordial to and respectful of your classmates. If you cheat on a test, copy someone's homework, or exhibit unethical behavior; you will be subject to one or more of the following:

- (1) No credit for the assignment/exam and/or
- (2) Removal from the course.

If you wish to contest any assertion of failure to meeting academic standards, you may exercise the due process options listed in the Student Handbook.

**Withdrawal Dates:**

End of unconditional withdrawal: February 13, 2007  
End of conditional withdrawal: March 27, 2007

**Any student requesting special accommodations for this course due to a disability should apply for services through the SOAR Office or the Counseling Center, which will document the disability. A counselor will then help determine which accommodations, if any, the student needs for success in this course.**

**Course Outline/Weekly Topics**

Week 1	The Sun,
Week 2	The Nature of Stars,
Week 3	The Birth of Stars.
Week 4	Stellar Evolution,
Week 5	The Deaths of Stars.
Week 6	Neutron Stars
Week 7	Black Holes.
Week 8	Quasars.
Week 9	Active galaxies.
Week 10	Our Galaxy.
Week 11	Gamma Ray Bursters.
Week 12	The Early Universe
Week 13	Cosmology
Week 14	Observing
Week 15	Space exploration.
Week 16	The search for extraterrestrial life.