

## ASTR 200 Topics in Astronomy

### Course Description

This course entertains discussion of specific topics in astronomy, such as but not limited to comets, eclipses, UFOs, and interstellar travel as well as other topics of interest. This course is designed for students not majoring in physics. This course requires no math or a science background. Students may consult their curricular advisers or the Department of Physics and Astronomy for specific topics being studied during a given semester. (1-3 credit hours)

A total of 3 hours of credit may be earned.

Prerequisite: None

### Course Objectives

Identify and select interesting topics in modern Astronomy,

Discuss in length the variety of astronomical objects in the known universe,

Discuss the possibility of the existence of earth-like planets in our own Milky Way Galaxy,

Discuss the possibility of the existence of intelligent life in the Milky Way and the Universe in general.

### Course Rationale

This course is offered non-majors or non-minors. It is a one-semester, three credit hour course. It provides the opportunity for students to study specific topics that may not be available in regular course offerings.

### Course Content, Format, and Bibliography

#### *Content*

This course entertains discussion of general and specific topics in astronomy and will be determined by the Instructor and students.

#### *Format*

The course will present topics in astronomy and be taught in a mini-course format worth 1-semester credit hour. Up to three credit-hours of credit will be available. Each mini-course scheduled during the day will meet twice weekly for three weeks, thus, they will last only about one-fifth of a semester. Evening sections will meet once a week for thirteen weeks. The

days and hour of meetings will be listed in the Schedule of Classes. For more information see your advisor or come to the Department of Physics and Astronomy office. Information about the topics to be offered each quarter will be made available at the Advisor's office and also will be distributed to various classes in advance of pre- registration.

*Bibliography*

There is no specific textbook assigned for this course.