

Syllabus
Astronomy 103 Laboratory
Sections 5-8, Fall 2005

The laboratory is a mandatory part of Astronomy 103, and it is to provide practical experience with astronomical observations, measurements in general, and with the underlying scientific concepts. Half of the labs are indoors, so they are kept *rain or shine*.

Time and Place of Laboratory
Lewis Hall Basement

Section 5: Monday at 7:00 – 8:50 PM Section 6: Monday at 9:00 – 10:50 PM
Section 7: Tuesday at 7:00 – 8:50 PM Section 8: Tuesday at 9:00 – 10:50 PM

<http://www.phy.olemiss.edu/~kakukk/Astro/Lab/Lab.html>

Students must attend the lab section in which they are registered.

Lab Instructor

Kenneth Bader

Lewis Hall 104, kbader@olemiss.edu

Office Hours

Wednesday 4-5, Friday 1-2

Lab book and other materials

Introductory Astronomy Laboratory Manual, by D. J. Summers and E. M. Aitala

A calculator is needed in each class

General information:

- (1) Participation is required in each lab and missed labs count as zero. A student with more than 3 unexcused absences will fail the course, whatever their grade would be otherwise.
- (2) Labs are held at night and it might get quite cold later in the semester. Make sure to dress appropriately!
- (3) Every student must buy an unused copy of the lab manual, and have a calculator. **Your cell phone's calculator is not acceptable.**
- (4) **Students must sign in the beginning of the lab** and turn in a lab report at the end of the lab. Missing either the sign-in or the report may result in a zero grade.

(5) Attending a different section of the lab is not acceptable (each lab section has a different schedule). There are no make-ups for missed labs, but doctor's notes or documents proving inevitable absences are accepted.

(6) **Changes in lab times may happen a few times in the semester.** In addition, a few labs may require advance preparation. These pre-labs will be due in the beginning of the lab. They will be announced a week in advance. Pay attention to these announcements, and check for possible changes in case you have missed a lab!

(7) The grading scale is

A	> 90%	C	> 70%
B	> 80%	D	> 60%
		F	Less than 60%

For your information, grade averages in the past were around 85-90%, which is a strong B.

(8) There will not be a final test in the lab.

The format of the lab report:

(1) The report should be clearly organized and legible. Marks will be taken off for untidy work.

(2) **Indicate clearly your name, section number, the date and the title on the lab report.**

(3) Use the printed sheets from the lab manual or the ones provided by your instructor.

(4) Grades are based on your understanding of what you are doing, on the accuracy of your results, on the correctness of your calculations (if any). Feel free to repeat measurements that do not seem accurate. Partial credit is given for partially correct results.

Conduct in lab:

(1) The lab instructor has the authority to dismiss any student who creates disturbance in class or shows up having consumed alcohol.

(2) Students are expected not to leave until they are told so because important announcements are made at the end of the class regarding changes in lab time, grades, or necessary preparation for the next weeks' labs.