Course guide
230488 - ASTRO - Astrophysics and Cosmology

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Telecommunications Engineering
Teaching unit: 748 - FIS - Department of Physics.
Degree: BACHELOR’S DEGREE IN ENGINEERING PHYSICS (Syllabus 2011). (Optional subject).
Academic year: 2022 ECTS Credits: 6.0 Languages: English

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: Consultar aquí / See here:
https://telecos.upc.edu/ca/estudis/curs-actual/professorat-responsables-coordinadors/responsables-assignatura

Others: Consultar aquí / See here:
https://telecos.upc.edu/ca/estudis/curs-actual/professorat-responsables-coordinadors/professorat-assignat-idioma

PRIOR SKILLS

Those of the bachelor degree.

REQUIREMENTS

Having passed previous courses.

DEGREE COMPETENCES TO WHICH THE SUBJECT CONTRIBUTES

Generical:
3. ABILITY TO IDENTIFY, FORMULATE, AND SOLVE PHYSICAL ENGINEERING PROBLEMS. Planning and solving physical engineering problems with initiative, making decisions and with creativity. Developing methods of analysis and problem solving in a systematic and creative way.

Transversal:
1. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.
2. SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING - Level 3. Applying the knowledge gained in completing a task according to its relevance and importance. Deciding how to carry out a task, the amount of time to be devoted to it and the most suitable information sources.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Classical lectures and Project-Based Learning.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

Study the essential properties of the Universe. Develop mathematical models to describe the properties of astronomical objects. Design the fundamental characteristics of terrestrial and on-board astronomical instrumentation.
STUDY LOAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours large group</td>
<td>65.0</td>
<td>43.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self study</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>56.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total learning time: 150 h

CONTENTS

1. Introduction

Description:
An introduction to the course.

Specific objectives:
Provide an overall view of the course: understanding our Universe, with the help of Physical tools.

Related activities:
None.

Related competencies:
08 CRPE EF. ABILITY TO IDENTIFY, FORMULATE, AND SOLVE PHYSICAL ENGINEERING PROBLEMS. Planning and solving physical engineering problems with initiative, making decisions and with creativity. Developing methods of analysis and problem solving in a systematic and creative way.

07 AAT N3. SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING - Level 3. Applying the knowledge gained in completing a task according to its relevance and importance. Deciding how to carry out a task, the amount of time to be devoted to it and the most suitable information sources.

03 TLG. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.

Full-or-part-time: 1h

Theory classes: 1h

Description:
2.1. The Solar System.
2.1.1. Terrestrial planets.
2.1.2. Giant planets.
2.2. Exoplanets.

Specific objectives:
Understanding our Solar System and the search for other planetary systems.

Related activities:
None.

Related competencies:
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Full-or-part-time: 16h
Theory classes: 5h
Practical classes: 1h
Self study: 10h
3. Stellar structure.

Description:
3.1. Relevant observational characteristics and timescales.
3.2. Stellar interiors
   3.2.1. The equations of stellar structure.
   3.2.2. Equation of state.
   3.2.3. Nuclear physics of stars.
   3.2.4. Neutrino losses.
   3.2.5. Sources of opacity.
3.3. Stellar atmospheres.

Specific objectives:
Understanding the equations of stellar structure and learning the ingredients necessary to model a star.

Related activities:
   a) Modeling a Sedov explosion.
   b) Free fall collapse.
   c) Integration of zero temperature white dwarf structures: the mass-radius relationship.

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Full-or-part-time: 40h
   Theory classes: 10h
   Practical classes: 6h
   Guided activities: 1h
   Self study: 23h
4. Stellar evolution.

Description:
4.1. The main sequence phase.
4.2. Red giants.
4.3. Stellar remnants: white dwarfs, neutron stars and black holes.
4.4. Stellar explosions: core-collapse supernovae, novae and thermonuclear supernovae.

Specific objectives:
Understanding the different evolutionary phases of stars.

Related activities:
a) Stellar evolution: from the main sequence to the giant phase (using the TYCHO stellar evolutionary code).
b) Solving a simple nuclear network.

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Full-or-part-time: 38h
Theory classes: 9h
Practical classes: 5h
Guided activities: 1h
Self study: 23h
5. The Sun.

Description:
5.1. The radiative core.
5.1.1. Nuclear reactions.
5.1.2. Neutrino emission.
5.2. Convective layer.
5.3. Atmosphere.
5.3.1. Photosphere.
5.3.2. Chromosphere.
5.3.3. Corona.
5.4. The Solar cycle.
5.5. Solar activity.

Specific objectives:
Understanding the structure and main characteristics of the Sun.

Related activities:
None.

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Full-or-part-time: 15h
Theory classes: 2h
Practical classes: 1h
Self study: 12h

Description:
6.3. Galactic chemical evolution.
6.4. Active galaxies and quasars.

Specific objectives:
Learning the main properties of Galaxies.

Related activities:

Related competencies:
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Full-or-part-time: 19h
Theory classes: 3h
Practical classes: 3h
Guided activities: 1h
Self study: 12h

7. Large-scale structure of the Universe.

Description:
7.1. Clusters of galaxies.
7.2. The extragalactic distance scale.
7.3. The accelerated expansion of the Universe.
7.4. Gamma-ray bursts.

Specific objectives:
Learning the large scale structure of our Universe.

Related activities:
None.

Related competencies:
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Full-or-part-time: 18h
Theory classes: 4h
Practical classes: 2h
Self study: 12h
8. Cosmology

**Description:**
8.1. The observational basis of modern cosmology.
8.2. The cosmological principle.
8.3. Cosmological models.
8.4. The Big Bang and the inflationary Universe.

**Specific objectives:**
Understanding the basic tools of modern cosmology.

**Related activities:**
None.

**Related competencies:**
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**Full-or-part-time:** 21h
- Theory classes: 5h
- Practical classes: 2h
- Self study: 14h

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**GRADING SYSTEM**

60% final examination, 40% Project-Based Learning.

**EXAMINATION RULES.**

To be defined.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**Basic:**

**Complementary:**

**RESOURCES**

**Computer material:**
- Ordinador portàtil. Personal laptop computer