Physics 174
Course Syllabus

Welcome to Physics 174, Solar System Astronomy. In this course, you will learn about the Solar System and our place within it. This course will emphasize how we know what we know, how our knowledge of the Solar System has changed as astronomy developed as a science, and how science and other aspects of our culture interact.

Venue: CNS 208, MWF 2 pm

Instructor: Dr. Gregory C. Sloan
CNS 272 (or 271)
gsloan@ithaca.edu (best method to contact me)
274-3849 at Ithaca College (don't use the voicemail)
255-7504 at Cornell (no voicemail)

Course website: http://www.ithaca.edu/faculty/gsloan/ph174/

Pre-requisites: None


Organization:  
Unit I  The Birth of Astronomy  13 lectures  
Unit II  Light  4 lectures  
Unit III  Modern Planetary Astronomy  16 lectures  
Unit IV  Special Topics  4 lectures

Grading: Your final grade is based on:

2 midterm exams  20 % each  
1 final exam  30 %  
homework and quizzes  30 %

Your final grade will be based on your score and rank relative to other students and not on any absolute scores.

Homework

Students will be responsible for several homework assignments over the course of the semester. Details on how these should be submitted can be found on the course website, in the section on administrative issues.
Quizzes

You will take quizzes about once every week or two, in class. While attendance in lecture is not mandatory, no make-up quizzes will be offered.

Academic Honesty

You are responsible for following the Ithaca College Student Conduct Code and Standards of Academic Conduct, which are available on the web at:

Student Conduct Code
  http://www.ithaca.edu/attorney/policies/vol7/Volume_7-70102.htm
Standards of Academic Conduct
  http://www.ithaca.edu/attorney/policies/vol7/Volume_7-70104.htm

Section 7.1.2.3.3. states the essential rule underlying the various standards:

"... work submitted by a student should be the result of that student’s own honest effort. If other sources are consulted, they should be acknowledged. ..."

Students will be graded on their own work. The instructor will gladly address any questions on this matter. Bear in mind that as a student at Ithaca College, you are expected to understand and carry out your responsibilities. Violations of the standards of academic conduct will be dealt with mercilessly.