

ADVANCED SCHOLARS

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

DESCRIPTIVE ASTRONOMY (ASTR 103)

3 Credits

Faculty

KEVIN LEE*Research Assistant Professor,
Physics & Astronomy*

Dr. Lee has taught descriptive astronomy at UNL since 1997 and makes extensive use of instructional technology in his courses. His research interests focus on variable stars and the use of computer visualization tools in education.

ADAM DAVIS*Lecturer, Physics & Astronomy*

Dr. Davis has been actively developing online materials for astronomy through the Nebraska Astronomy Applet Project. He has taught both introductory physics and astronomy courses which rely heavily on online technologies. His research interests include cosmology, general relativity, and physics and astronomy education.

Course Description

ASTR 103 provides a general overview of introductory astronomy. This course offers a survey of the appearance of the night sky, the motions of the moon and planets, use of the electromagnetic spectrum as a tool, the characteristics and evolution of stars, the nature of the Milky Way and other galaxies, and our place in the structure of the universe. Using simple mathematical calculations, ASTR 103 will make use of mathematical reasoning. This course will expose students to many new concepts regarding the workings of our universe with numerous opportunities to practice understanding of these concepts and gain feedback.

Course Objectives

1. Understand the “Big Ideas” of astronomy.
2. Understand science as a process through examples of how astronomers apply the scientific method.
3. Develop a positive attitude toward astronomy, and science in general, enabling students to become life-long learners about our universe.

Course Components

- Highly Interactive Multimedia Lectures
- Practice Exercises With Feedback
- Computer Simulations For Concept Visualization
- Four Exams

Technology Requirements

Must meet EDU requirements.

Access to Internet and e-mail required.