

# ASTRONOMY C12 (THE PLANETS)

Spring 2021

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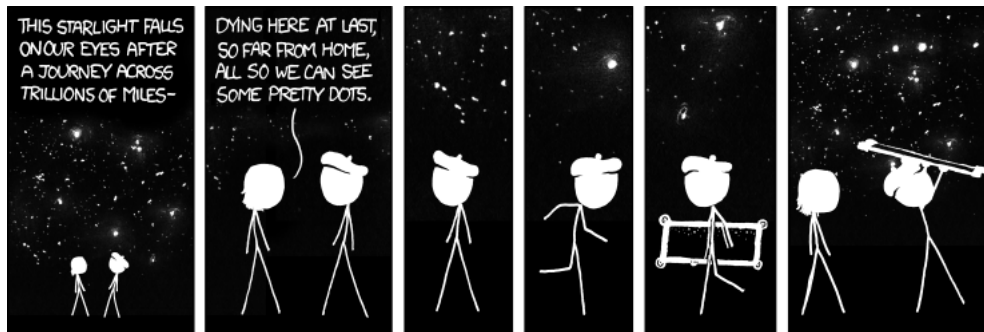
**Instructor:** Jacob Pilawa

**Email:** [jacobpilawa@berkeley.edu](mailto:jacobpilawa@berkeley.edu)

**Office Hours:** TBD

(or appointment) TBD

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## Zoom Links and Section Times:

- **Section 102:** Wednesday 1-2PM
- **Section 103:** Thursday 3-4PM
- **Section 105:** Tuesday 2-3PM
- **Zoom Link:** <https://berkeley.zoom.us/j/98719344610>

**What's the point of section?** Your discussion section is a time to clarify ideas from the lecture while exploring new topics in an engaging, interactive way. Feel free to bring any questions you have, and I will do my best to answer them. We'll also have group discussions and activities, worksheets, and videos to complement the lecture content and increase your appreciation for the material. I hope you come away from discussion sections a bit more curious, excited, and knowledgeable about the night sky.

**Attendance and Participation** At the end of the day, the only way to *learn* astronomy is to *do* astronomy, so attendance and participation is highly encouraged and can contribute to your participation grade in the class (see full syllabus). I see class time as a relaxed, low-stakes discussion and review of course material, and would love participation and engagement in the class.

**Additional Resources:** In addition to my office hours and TALC, feel free to email me any questions – I'll do my best to promptly respond! You should also feel free to collaborate with other students, but make sure that everyone working understands each and every step.

**Cheating:** Don't. For more information, see:

<https://astro.berkeley.edu/programs/undergraduate-program/policy-on-academic-misconduct/>.

**Lecture Information and Materials:** Here is some important information from the course syllabus (found on bCourses) related to this class:

- **Lecture:** TR, 9:30am-11:00am PT via Zoom (or asynchronously, via recordings).
- **TALC:** W 1:00pm-2:00pm, R 11:00am-12:00pm. From the syllabus: “This is a large, collaborative “office hour” where students work on their homework assignments in an informal group setting. At TALC, GSIs serve as guides rather than tutors as they help students with their homework problems. TALC is also an opportunity to discuss challenging topics from lecture and readings with classmates and the GSIs.”
- **Textbook:** *Astronomy* by A. Fraknoi, D. Morrison and S. C. Wolff (2016): <https://openstax.org/details/books/astronomy>
- **Grades:**
  - Homework: 60%
  - Observing Projects: 10%
  - Participation: 10%
  - Midterms: 10%
  - Final Exam: 10%
  - Special Project: 10%

**A last note:** I’m really excited to be the GSI for your section this upcoming semester, and I understand everyone is in their own unique set of circumstances. If there is anything I can do to make the classroom more accessible or benefit your learning, feel free to reach out.