



Eugene Chiang <chiang.eugene@gmail.com>

FW: Goodbye 7A

1 message

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Eugene CHIANG has sent you a bSpace Message from Astro 7A Sections:

Forwarded Message**Authored By** CHIANG, Eugene (Dec 20, 2012 11:11 PM)**To** All Participants**Subject** Goodbye 7A**Label** Normal

Dear Astro 7A,

Grades have been submitted.

Thank you all for a great class.

I have taught the class 4 times now. I won't be teaching it for awhile. This is my favorite undergraduate class to teach, so I will certainly miss it.

Next semester I will be teaching 7B --- it will be my first time, so if you enroll, you can count on an exciting if also bumpy ride (the first person who catches five mistakes that I make in lecture will win a prize). We will cover black holes, gravitational lensing, galaxies, and cosmology (birth of the universe).

Keep in mind that neither 7A nor 7B is actually required for the Astrophysics major. All the material is covered again, and in greater depth, in the 160--162 series (of which 2 out of 3 are required). That said, lots of people take Astro 7A and 7B because it offers a nice general introduction, and it can be taken by anyone with a good preparation in the physical sciences, not just majors. One of the things I love about astronomy is that offers direct applications of what you learn in your physics and math classes. If you have ever said to yourself, "wow, I actually used what I learned in my physics class to understand this aspect of the universe," then we will have done our job.

I want to thank our problem set grader, Kevin Y., for all his hard work this semester. You gave a him a ton of work to do, and he came through for us superbly. And thanks again to our most excellent GSIs, Eve and Nick. They are among the best GSIs I have worked with, and made the machinery of 7A run smoothly. I know that much of your class's high performance can be traced to their high competence and commitment.

Goodbye 7A (and Hello 7B),
Eugene

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