

# SYLLABUS FOR ASTRONOMY 101, FALL 2008

COURSE TITLE: CELESTIAL CLOCKWORKS  
WEBSITE: [www.pa.msu.edu/courses/ast101](http://www.pa.msu.edu/courses/ast101)  
LOCATION: Abrams Planetarium  
TIME: Tuesday 6:40 pm – **7:40 pm**  
CREDITS: 1

INSTRUCTOR: David Batch  
Abrams Planetarium  
355-4676  
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GRADING SCHEME: Daily quizzes, Take-homes 30%; Midterm 30%; Final Exam 40%  
For info on grading and attendance, see AST101 webpage.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Planisphere & Astrolabe (\$20.00 total, available at planetarium)  
Red Flashlight (student provided)

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WEEK #	DATE	TENTATIVE TOPIC
1.	Aug. 26	Constellations, Star Maps, Celestial Sphere, Horizon Coordinates
2.	Sept. 2	Constellations, Rotation of Earth, Sky Grid
3.	Sept. 9	Planisphere
4.	Sept. 16	Sky Coordinates
5.	Sept. 23	Sun's Annual Motion, Sidereal and Solar Time
6.	Sept. 30	Revolution of Earth, Ecliptic, Zodiac, Seasonal Constellations
7.	Oct. 7	Introduction to Astrolabe
8.	Oct. 14	Midterm
9.	Oct. 21	Astrolabe, continued
10.	Oct. 28	Determination of Latitude
11.	Nov. 4	Latitude, continued
12.	Nov. 11	Introduction to Timekeeping, Time Zones, Longitude
13.	Nov. 18	Determination of Longitude
14.	Nov. 25	Longitude, continued
15.	Dec. 2	Review: Constellations, Latitude, Longitude, Time
16.	Dec. 9	Final Exam, in planetarium at 6:40 p.m.

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\*\*\*\*\* MSU OBSERVATORY PUBLIC OBSERVING NIGHTS FOR FALL SEMESTER \*\*\*\*\*

Sept. 5, 6; Oct. 10, 11; Nov. 7, 8; Time: 9-11 pm., weather permitting.

Observatory is located at the corner of Forest and College roads, approx. 2 miles south of planetarium.