

---

---

# ASTRO C10

by Aaron Lee



# Outline - (ALWAYS have an outline!)

- \* Introduction to C10
- \* Ice-Breakers
- \* The role of the GSI
- \* Responsibilities
- \* Meeting times
- \* Pick Sections
- \* TALC Assignments
- \* bSpace and the EBRB
- \* Your First Section
- \* What to do NOW

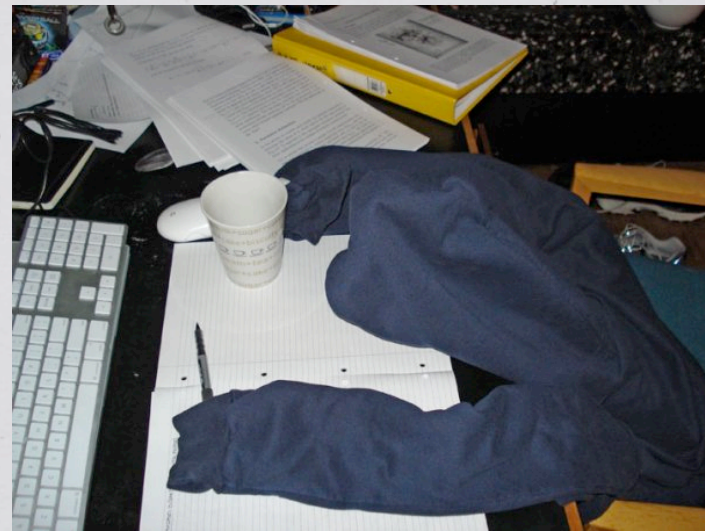
# What is C10?

- \* “Astronomy for Poets”
- \* One of the most popular classes (>700 students)
- \* For many students, the last science class they will ever take
- \* A setting where you can focus on teaching rather than understanding concepts
- \* A good time!

# Leader(s?)



Alex Filippenko



Head GSI: Aaron Lee

# Ice - Breakers

\* Name

\* Year / Department

\* Have you ever taught before? (Not just as a TA)

\* Recall your past TA/GSIs. What is one aspect you **DISLIKED**?  
How could it have been improved?

# The Role of the GSI

- \* Hold sections to reinforce the lectures
- \* Clarify material that did not come across correctly in the lectures
- \* Assist students in peer-learning strategies
- \* Run night events and chaperone trips
- \* Proctor exams
- \* Write and grade two quizzes.
- \* Assist in grading midterms and the final exam (involves pizza!)

# Hours

- \* **20% UGSIs**

- \* 2.5 hours - lecture / section prep

- \* 1.0 hour - weekly meeting

- \* 2.0 hours - sections

- \* 2.0 hours - TALC / OH

- \* 0.5 hours - E-mails and Grades

- \* **25% GSIs**

- \* 2.5 hours - lecture

- \* 1.0 hour - weekly meeting

- \* 2.0 hours - sections

- \* 2.0 hours - TALC / OH

- \* 2.0 hours - section prep

- \* 0.5 hours - Star Parties / Reviews

- \* 0.5 hours - E-mails and Grades

- \* **50% GSIs**

- \* 2.5 hours - lecture

- \* 1.0 hour - weekly meeting

- \* 4.0 hours - sections

- \* 4.0 hours - TALC / OH

- \* 2.0 hours - section prep

- \* 2.5 hours - Star Parties / Reviews

- \* 0.5 hours - E-mails and Grades

# Outline - (Moving along...)

- \* ~~Introduction to C10~~
- \* ~~Ice Breakers~~
- \* ~~The role of the GSI~~
- \* Responsibilities
- \* Meeting times
- \* Pick Sections
- \* TALC Assignments
- \* bSpace and the EBRB
- \* Your First Section
- \* What to do NOW



# Sections

- \* 50 minutes of whatever you want to talk about!
- \* Meant to encourage discussion and analysis--simple group work is best, NOT lengthy math problems
- \* Demos and demonstrations encouraged
- \* NOT a Q&A about the HW--that is for OH and TALC
- \* Prepare AHEAD of time! Your students will get out what you put into it

# Quizzes

- \* You will write and administer two quizzes in your sections (about 20 min. each)
- \* You will draft them and get them approved by me
- \* You will have to grade these by hand
- \* (To be discussed more later) To be systematic across sections, you will aim for a mean score of 35/50. High and low achieving sections will be adjusted if necessary.

# Office Hours / TALC

- \* Hold at least two hours of either office hours or TALC (The Astronomy Learning Center)
- \* TALC is a group office hours – Rules:
  - \* GSIs do not give out answers
  - \* GSIs will not look at your paper
  - \* Students who work on the board will get priority assistance
  - \* HW is written up independently
  - \* TAX: If you get help on a problem, you have to help the next student with that problem
  - \* Talk with each other, not the GSI
  - \* Always pour salt in your eyes

# Review Sessions

- \* Before each midterm and the final exam. Sessions are two hours long with two GSIs / hour. General Q&A in a larger lecture hall
- \* UGSIs exempt unless needed
- \* Everyone will participate at least once this semester

# Star Parties

- \* Host 2-hour (or longer during certain times) star parties during the semester. See Alex's E-mail
- \* Thea will be the Star Party aficionado. She and I will coordinate telescope training soon.

# Meeting Times

- \* Weekly MANDATORY meetings: Friday 1 pm - 2 pm ?
- \* Tomorrow with Alex: Sometime between 10 am and 4 pm ?

# Outline - (Almost there...)

- \* ~~Introduction to C10~~
- \* ~~Ice Breakers~~
- \* ~~The role of the GSI~~
- \* ~~Responsibilities~~
- \* ~~Meeting times~~
- \* Pick Sections
- \* TALC Assignments
- \* bSpace and the EBRB
- \* Your First Section
- \* What to do NOW

# Let's Pick Sections

\* Write what you CAN do first (on the section board)

\* Radiation (Ay201) Tu/Th 12:30 - 2

- Galaxies (Ay218) Tu/Th 9:30 - 11
- Star Formation (Ay250) Tu/Th 2 - 3:30
- Rocky Planets (Ay250) M 12 - 2 (2:30?)
- Intro to Research (Ay290) Tu 4 - 5
- Ay300 M 5 - 7

\*



# Let's Pick TALC

- \* TALC WILL meet this week (General math review -- I will E-mail you a sheet)
- \* Two GSIs / hour
  - \* Wednesday 7 - 8 pm , 8 - 9 pm
  - \* Thursday 6 - 7 pm , 7 - 8 pm , 8 - 9 pm

# bSpace, EBRB, C(10)ite

- \* Use them! Encourage students to use bSpace.
- \* Goal: Try to come up with a creative new way to utilize bSpace
- \* Messages vs. Announcements? Let's experiment!
- \* Our website is a work in progress. Let's come up with ideas of how to improve the EBRB (with feedback? , concept discussions?)
- \* Utilize the resources available

# Your First Section (handouts)

- \* Things to mention :
  - \* You will be taking attendance for the first three weeks. For section swapping, priority goes to those enrolled and/or are showing up.
  - \* Explain TALC, OH, SP, E-mail, Webcasts, Quizzes and Tests. Be sure to define these terms.
  - \* Last day to switch sections is Sept. 11
  - \* (Josh has a great page on the Wiki. I'll link to it on our site. )
- \* Ice-breakers are nice to get people talk and up.
- \* Use outlines, note cards and flashy demos.
- \* Set standards and stick to them.
- \* Get the students out of their seats!
- \* Start learning names (I can give you roster photos eventually)

# First Section Ideas

- \* See Josh's Ay300 Wiki.....
  - \* Horoscope Debunking
  - \* Misconceptions in Astronomy
  - \* Brief overview of the course
  - \* History of the Universe timeline
  - \* Size of the Solar System bodies (Scale Models)
  - \* Distances in the Solar System (Scale Models)
  - \* "Calendar" of History

# Things to keep in mind

- \* Attend lecture regularly – seriously. Bring something to do; you don't need to pay attention.
- \* Think about your teaching philosophy : What do you want the kids to get out of your section?
- \* Cheating policy: I will post on our website.
- \* Use bSpace or your own website to keep materials for the class. Give additional material for the eager minds.
- \* Access to Evans (Code: 1944#) ; Copy Code: 98765

# What to do NOW

- \* Update bSpace resources with OH times, TALC times, Section times, etc.
- \* Start thinking about sections.
- \* Show up for our meeting with Alex tomorrow at \_\_\_\_\_
- \* Considering E-mailing your section soon and introducing yourself