

**Macroworld UGC 303 GIE**  
 Spring 2013  
 Tuesday - Thursday; 9:30-10:50  
 216 NSC

Week	Month	Day	Topic	Reading	Visuals
1	January	17	Introduction	1	1
		19	Ancient interest	2	2
2		24	Stonehenge	3	3
		26	Aristotle	4, 5	4
3	February	31	Ptolemy	6, 7	5
		2	Brahe, Kepler, Copernicus	8, 9	6
4		7	Galileo, Newton, telescopes	10, 11	7, 8
		9	Terrestrial geology	20	9
5		14	Review		
		16	Examination		
6		21	Impacts	12	10
		23	Volcanoes	12, 20	10
7	March	28	Meteor Crater	12	11
		1	Meteor Crater	12	11
8		6	Lunar geology	13	12
		8	Old Mars	14	13
9		13	HOLIDAY		
		15	HOLIDAY		
10		20	Schiaparelli, Lowell	14, 15	13
		22	Science fiction		
11		27	Review		
		29	Examination		
12	April	3	Pre-Apollo	16	14
		5	Apollo missions	17	14
13		10	Apollo missions	18	15
		12	Origin of the Moon		16, 17
14		17	Mariner 4, 6, 7	19	
		19	Mariner 9	19	18
15		24	Viking, rovers	19	18
		26	Review/term paper due		
	May	8	Final - NSC 216, 8AM		

**Instructor:** R. Giese  
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 Office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 11am-12 am: 2 pm-3 pm  
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 Note that any email must have "UGC303" in the subject box; anything else will likely result in the message not being read

**Text:** Exploration of the Solar System  
On line at *UBlearns*

**Examinations:** There will be three 1-hour examinations during the semester (see above). The examinations will be non-cumulative and will consist of several short essays and some definitions/identifications. In addition, a term paper will be required, the topic taken from a list to be provided; instructions for the paper will be posted later in the semester. It is the firm policy of the instructor that NO make-up examinations will be given, except under the most extraordinary circumstances, and this must be arranged in advance. A missed examination will be counted as a zero grade. If you are not completely certain of being able to take all the examinations when they are scheduled, you should not take this course. There will be no circumstances under which more than one make-up will be given to a student.

Be on time for the examinations. If you arrive late and all other students are still taking the examination, you will be allowed to take the exam. As soon as the first student turns in his/her exam and leaves the room, any later arriving students will not be allowed to take the exam and will have to take a makeup at a later date. Makeup exams will have a different format. I will attempt to post the grades from each examination on *UBlearns* one week after the examination date or sooner. Cheating during examinations will not be tolerated. Students whose behavior is suspect will be orally warned once only; continuation of the offensive behavior may result in a request to the student to change seats, or his/her examination may be confiscated (the student will receive a grade of zero for that examination).

**Grades:** Each examination will receive a numerical grade. The instructor will post the average grade (mean) and the standard deviation (st. dev.) for the examination. If the average grade is less than 80%, the approximate equivalent letter grade can be determined as follows:

Break between	A and A-	Mean + 1.5 st. dev.
	A- and B+	Mean + 1 st. dev.
	B+ and B	Mean + 2/3 st. dev.
	B and B-	Mean + 1/3 st. dev.
	B- and C+	Mean
	C+ and C	Mean - 1/3 st. dev.
	C and C-	Mean - 2/3 st. dev.
	C- and D+	Mean - 1 st. dev.
	D+ and D	Mean - 1.5 st. dev.
	D and F	Mean - 2 st. dev.

In this scheme, the breaks between letter grades are, in general, not integral values. Because of the  $\pm$  subdivision of the letter grades, the possibility exists that some students will have numerical grades which lie just below the break to the next higher letter grade (e.g., your exam grade is 74.0 and the break to the higher letter grade is 74.1). This is unfortunate, but there is no way to prevent this, other than doing better on the examinations. Please do not ask to have your letter grade increased just because you are “so close” to the next grade. No such adjustments will be made. Also, please do not ask if there is “extra” work you can do to raise your grade; the answer will be no.

If the mean is 80% or higher, the traditional grading method will be used as follows. The instructor reserves the right to modify the grading schemes described here if they lead to aberrant letter grades.

Break between	A and A-	95
	A- and B+	90
	B+ and B	86.7
	B and B-	83.35
	B- and C+	80
	C+ and C	76.7
	C and C-	73.3
	C- and D+	70
	D+ and D	65
	D and F	60

**Term paper:** All students will write a term paper. Details will be available on line later in the semester. The term paper is due on the last day of class. Be sure to follow the format described in the instructions; deviations from the prescribed format will reduce your grade. The grade for the paper will be reduced by 5 percentage points each weekday that it is late, to a maximum of 50 percentage points. If you do not submit a term paper, you will receive the grade of I/F which can be removed by turning in the paper. The grades for the term paper will be posted on UBLearn approximately one week after the due date.

**Final Grade:** The final semester grade will be calculated as described above except that the mean and standard deviation will be calculated using all three examinations combined, with a total weight of 85%, and the term paper weighted at 15%. Final letter grades will be posted through the web grading system and will not appear on the UBLearn data base.