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SCIL 112 – ASTRONOMY II LABORATORY

Semester: Fall 2011

Credits: 1

Instructor: R. de la Fuente Marcos, Ph.D.

Email: marcosr@suffolk.es

Class Hours: September 25th – 29th, 2011 (Teide Observatory)

Course Objectives:

This course is mainly concerned with practical aspects of the telescopic observations in Astronomy. Operation of a Newton-Cassegrain reflector, a CCD camera with adaptive optics and diffraction grating, a SLR Digital camera, and astronomy software.

Contents:

Observational exercises using a 50 cm Newton-Cassegrain reflector, CCD astro-photography exercises, and computer processing of astronomical images.

Reference Text:

E. Chaisson & S. McMillan, *Astronomy, a beginner's guide to the Universe*, 6th. Ed. , Prentice Hall, New Jersey, USA, 2009.

H. Bradt, *Astronomy Methods*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 2004.

Prerequisites:

Students who enroll in SCIL 112 must enroll also in SCI 112.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. I strongly urge you to attend all lab sessions. 20% of the final grade will be lost every time the student fails to attend an observation. Several observing sessions will be given in Madrid before going to the observatory.

Course evaluation:

There are several different areas from which your grade will be obtained:
Practical Exam and Observations Log 15%, Observational Sessions 85%

Grading Scale:

There will be no curve, and grades will be assigned as follows:

A =	95% - 100%	C =	75% - 80%
A- =	93% - 95%	C- =	73% - 75%
B+ =	90% - 93%	D+ =	70% - 73%
B =	85% - 90%	D =	65% - 70%
B- =	83% - 85%	D- =	63% - 65%
C+ =	80% - 83%	F =	Less than 63%

Exams:

One practical exam will be given during the last night at the Observatory.

Plagiarism:

Students are expected to be honest in their academic work. The University reserves the right to penalize any student whose academic conduct is, in its judgment, detrimental to the University. Such conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving or receiving or offering or soliciting information on examinations, or the use of unauthorized previously prepared material in examinations or quizzes. Violations should be reported to your course instructor, who will investigate and adjudicate them according to the Policy on Academic Honesty of the University. If the charges are found to be true, the student may be liable for academic or disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion from the University. Collaboration is strictly prohibited during exams. Anyone caught cheating during an exam will receive an F as their final grade for the entire course.