El Paso Community College
Syllabus
Part II
Official Course Description

SUBJECT AREA	**Physics**
COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER	**ASTR 1304**
COURSE TITLE	**Solar System**
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	**3 3 0** **Credits Lec Lab**

I. Catalog Description

Provides an introductory study of astronomy. Includes topics on astronomical history and instruments, the planets and their moons, comets, asteroids, and our sun. May not be counted as physics credit toward a major or minor in physics, but may be counted as a laboratory science for non-science majors.
Prerequisite: INRW 0311 or ESOL 0340 (can be taken concurrently) or by placement examor ENGL 1301 with a "C" or better or ENGL 1302 with a "C" or better. Corequisite: ASTR 1104. (3:0).

II. Course Objectives

Upon completing this course, the student will be able to:

A. Understand changes in the definition of astronomy and know the modern definition.
B. Develop appreciation of the early history of astronomy.
C. Develop a general idea of the basic structure of the universe.
D. Become familiar with fundamental astronomical terms.
E. Understand the evolution of and notion of the earth-moon system.
F. Understand evidence of the earth's motion.
G. Know the relationship between the earth's rotation and celestial coordinates.
H. Know the earth's age, origin, evolution and structure.
I. Describe gravitational force.
J. Describe the general structure of the solar system.
K. Understand our knowledge of the major planets, comets, meteors, asteroids, and other components of the solar system.
L. Know the structure of the sun and how it produces energy.
M. **Critical thinking skills** students will engage in creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluations, and synthesis of information.
N. **Communication skills** students will demonstrate effective written, oral, and/or visual communication.
O. **Teamwork skills** students will demonstrate the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
P. **Empirical and quantitative skills** students will demonstrate the ability to formulate an inquiry and then identify and follow an investigative process using empirical and/or qualitative/quantitative reasoning to satisfy the inquiry.

III. Evaluation

A. Preassessment
There is no preassessment for this course.

B. Postassessment
The scheduling of examinations, homework and quizzes will be the sole prerogative of the instructor. The manner, frequency and extent of these instruments will be indicated to the student in the course syllabus that is distributed at the beginning of the semester. The philosophy of the college endorses frequent evaluation.

C. Remediation
The instructor may provide a student with a means of improving a grade. The timing, form and method of remediation will be determined by the instructor and included in the course syllabus.

D. Grading
All grading will follow current EPCC Catalog standards. The assignment of letter grades to percent scores obtained in various class activities will be determined by the instructor and included in the course syllabus.

IV. Disability Statement (Americans with/Disabilities Act [ADA])

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

V. 6 Drop Rule

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.