

Basics of Spaceflight

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Classes:	T&Th 2:30PM — 3:45PM Thaw Hall, Room 102	Recitations:	W 1:00PM — 1:50PM W 2:00PM — 2:50PM Thaw Hall, Room 104
Office Hours:	T 4:00PM — 5:00PM Allen Hall, Room 319	Office Hours:	M 3:00PM — 4:00PM Allen Hall, Room 517

Welcome! This is a science class *for non-science majors*. The main sciences in space flight are astronomy and physics, but chemistry and biology are used as well. Mathematical descriptions of space flight will require us to use arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and trigonometry.

Textbook. This course will make use of the textbook written by Prof. Regina Schulte-Ladbeck, which can be accessed for *free* through the website <http://reslscience.weebly.com/space-books.html>. The e-book or paperback versions of the book can also be purchased through this same link.

Office Hours. The instructor will hold office hours on Tuesdays from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM in Allen Hall 319, or by appointment. To schedule an appointment please contact the instructor at fhs1@pitt.edu to confirm availability. The instructor will also be available to answer your questions at the end of every class. Our T.A. will inform you during the first week of class when he will be holding office hours.

Courseweb. Reading assignments, homeworks, and lecture slides will be posted on Courseweb. All course-related announcements will also be posted there, so make sure you check it often.

Recitation and Homework. There will be 10 homework assignments, for a total of 10 points. You are allowed to work on the homework with a study group, but you must hand in your own copy of the work. Homework is due at the start of your recitation. Late homework or homework via email *will not* be accepted. However, you can turn in your homework to our T.A. at any time prior to the start of your recitation. Our T.A. will inform you where early homework assignments can be deposited.

Succeeding in this course. Read the assigned sections before class in order to attend class prepared. Ask questions! Respond to questions asked in class. Take notes during class! Some classes will be presented with slides and movies, but there will also be material covered on the blackboard. The homework, practice quizzes, and recitations are there to prepare you for succeeding on the exams – participate! Take the regular exams. Even if you have fallen behind in your studies, students usually find it easier to take the regular exams than relying on the make-up for success.

Academic Integrity. Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity, from the February 1974 Senate Committee on Tenure and Academic Freedom reported to the Senate Council, will be required to participate in the outlined procedural process as initiated by the instructor. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the

quiz or exam will be imposed.

Disability Resources. If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 216 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890/412-383-7355 (TTY), as early as possible in the term. Disability Resources and Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Exams. There will be three regular exams and one comprehensive make-up exam in this course. The exams are scheduled for the following dates:

- ◇ Exam 1: September 26th
- ◇ Exam 2: November 2nd
- ◇ Exam 3: December 5th
- ◇ Make-up Exam: December 7th

There will be no final exam. If you miss one of the first three exams, you are entitled to take the comprehensive make-up exam. If you took all first three exams, however, you will not be allowed to take the make-up exam to improve your score.

Grades. Each exam counts for 30 points. The homework assignments will amount to 10 points in total. *There is no extra credit.* The full grade scale for this class follows the University of Pittsburgh QPA scale shown below. This is an absolute scale and there will be no curving.

95% – 100%	A+
90% – 94.9%	A
85% – 89.9%	A–
80% – 84.9%	B+
75% – 79.9%	B
70% – 74.9%	B–
60% – 69.9%	C+
50% – 59.9%	C
40% – 49.9%	C–
30% – 39.9%	D+
20% – 29.9%	D
15% – 19.9%	D–
0% – 14.9%	F

Absences. If you miss a class, make sure to get the notes from another student in this course.