This timeline is subject to change depending on the weather and your progress as learners. An updated copy will always be available on the course website. I will notify you when it is updated and what changes I made.

On days when reading assignments are due you need to complete the online reading quiz on the course website by 9:00 a.m. on that day. I will also periodically assign pre-labs, which will be in the form of quizzes, problem sets, or writing assignments. These will be due 1-2 weeks after they are assigned. Observing Run Preparation (ORP) forms (available on the course website) are due by 9 a.m. the day of the lab. Lab reports are due three weeks after the initial data for the lab is taken. If the weather is good, you may take data for the next lab before you have turned in the previous lab.

Date	Class	Assignment Due	In Class Materials	Lab	Assignment Due	In Lab Materials
Aug. 23 (T)	#1: Introduction and Welcome	• Pre-class Questionnaire • Knowledge Survey	Guidelines for Good Group Discussions			
Aug. 23/24 (T/W)				#1: Introduction to the lab, safety procedures, group work		Guidelines for Working in a Group
Aug. 25 (TH)	#2: Navigating the Night Sky	• Read Birney Ch. 1 and Ch. 2 • Reading Quiz				
Aug. 30 (T)	#3: Navigating the Night Sky					
Aug. 30/31 (T/W)				#2: Using online catalogs		
Sep. 1 (TH)	#4: Optics	• Read Birney Ch. 6 • Reading Quiz				
Sep. 6 (T) **ADD DEADLINE**	#5: McCormick Orientation	• Read manual for McCormick telescope (PDF) • Read manual for the 6-inch Doghouse telescope (PDF) • No quiz (but you will need to know this stuff for lab)	• Pre-lab #1 • Lab #1			
Sept. 6/7 (T/W) **Sep. 7 DROP DEADLINE**				#3: Intro to ADS (cloudy)		

Sep. 8 (TH)	#6: Telescopes	• Read SKA overview Brochure • Read SKA South Africa Brochure • Read SKA Australia-New Zealand Brochure • Answer these questions based on your reading.				
Sep. 13 (T)	#7: Measuring Light	• Read Birney, Ch. 5 • Reading Quiz				
Sep. 13/14 (T/W)				#4: Intro to telescopes lab	• Review Doghouse 6in manual • Read intro to telescopes lab • submit ORP (due 9 a.m. on morning of lab)	
Sep. 15 (TH)	# 8: Atmospheric Effects	• Read Birney, Ch7 • Reading Quiz	Pre-lab #1 Due			
Sep. 20 (T)	#9: How to Write a Lab Report	• Journal Article Reading Assignment				
Sep. 20/21 (T/W)				#5: Intro to telescopes lab or intro to ADS (cloudy)		
Sep. 22 (TH)	#10: Errors and Error Propagation	• Read Lyons or equivalent • Reading Quiz				
Sep. 27 (T)	#11: Model Fitting					
Sep. 27/28 (T/W)				#6: Intro to telescopes lab or intro to astronomy software (cloudy)		
Sep. 29 (TH)	#12: Detectors in	• Read Birney Ch. 8 (sections on the eye and				

	Astronomy	CCDs only) • Reading Quiz				
Oct. 4 (T)	#13: Calibrating CCDs	• Read Birney Ch. 9 • Reading Quiz				
Oct. 4/5 (T/W)				#7: Photometry lab or Intro to Astronomy Software (cloudy)	• Read photometry lab • Read RRRT manual • submit ORP	
Oct. 6 (TH)	#14: Photometry	• Read Birney Ch. 10 • Reading Quiz	Lab # 1 Due			
Oct. 11 (T) **READING DAY**						
Oct. 12 (W)				#8: Photometry lab		
Oct. 13 (TH)	#15: Photometry					
Oct. 18 (T)	#16: Spectrographs	• Read Birney Ch. 13 • Reading Quiz				
Oct. 18/19 (T/W) Oct. 18 **DROP WITH W DEADLINE**				#9: Photometry lab or spectroscopy lab	• Read spectroscopy lab • Re-read Fan Mountain Manual • Submit ORP	
Oct. 20 (TH)	#17: Spectroscopy	• Read Birney Ch. 14 • Reading Quiz				
Oct. 25 (T)	#18: Spectroscopy					
Oct. 25/26 (T/W)				#10: Spectroscopy lab		
Oct. 27 (TH)	#19: Asking Good Questions	Reading Assignment TBD				
Nov. 1 (T)	#20: Research Time for Project					
Nov. 1/2 (T/W)				#11: Spectroscopy lab		
	#21: How to Write	• Reading Assignment TBD				

Nov. 3 (TH)	a Good Observing Proposal	• Proposal due Sunday at 10 p.m. EST				
Nov. 8 (T)	#22: Final Project Time Allocation Committee (TAC) meeting	Read Proposals				
Nov. 8/9 (T/W)				#12: Final project or spectroscopy lab	Final Project ORP	
Nov. 10 (TH)	#23: Final Project background	Reading assignments TBD				
Nov. 15 (T)	#24: Final project background					
Nov. 15/16 (T/W)				#13: Final project		
Nov. 17 (TH)	#25: Final project background					
Nov. 22 (T)	#26: How to Create a Good Poster	Elements of a good poster design assignment				
Nov. 29 (T)	#27: Work on final project					
Nov. 29/30 (T/W)				#14: Final project		
Dec. 1 (TH)	#28: Work on final project					
Dec. 6 (T)	#29: Poster Session				Submit final project	
Monday, December 12 -- 9 a.m. to noon	Lab Exam and Post-class Knowledge Survey					