Satisfies general education requirement (Origins and Influences Pathway)
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office hours by appointment
nicadd.niu.edu/~hedin/162/162O.html

BOOK: NOT REQUIRED. Suggest Discovering the Essential Universe
by Comins editions 4 or 5 or 6. Assignments will be on course web page.

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<th>Section</th>
<th>EssentialUniverse Ed 6</th>
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Test 1. Sections 1,2,3,4         February 21
Test 2. Sections 5,6,7           April 4
Test 3. Sections 8,9,10,11       May 2
Test 4. final all sections(optional)  May 7

Class Operations: In a typical week, there will be two "lectures"
on the class web page plus some number of videos or links to
other pages. You should go through the lectures and check out the links.
Each lecture will have a "feedback" where you tell me something you
learned from that day's presentation plus the "feedback phrase" mentioned
in the presentation. Two weeks of feedbacks (usually 4) are due the
Friday of the second week, and you can send in early. There will also be
eight assignments which are usually due on the Sunday of the following
week after they are assigned, which can also be turned in early. There
are three exams plus an optional final (see grading). Example
exams are on the web page and are the best guide for studying for the exam.

Communication: You should e-mail me your feedbacks and assignments in some
suitable format (e-mail text for feedback is best though
docx or pdf is fine, and docx or pdf files for the assignments
though some students have sent me a photo of their assignment)
or put them in my mailbox in the physics office in FW202. The assignments are posted on the course web page. Tests will use Blackboard. I will give the time range for exam taking near the day of the test. The tests are (obviously) open book and open notes. If you can not take the exam that day, contact me before the day of the exam. If you have questions, e-mail me at hedin@niu.edu. You can also arrange an office visit if you are on campus. If your question applies to the entire class, I will then e-mail the answer to everyone.

Grading: Each test will count 100 points and the lowest test score will be dropped. There will be no makeups allowed after the day of the test; a missed test will be considered as the lowest score and dropped. You can choose to skip the final and just count the first three tests. Sample tests are on the web page. The 8 assignments are due the Sunday of the following week they are assigned (1/2 credit if late). They contribute 160 points. The "lecture feedbacks" will count 4 points per lecture with 100 points total and are due the Friday of that week's classes (1/2 credit if late). You can always turn in feedbacks and assignments early, once I have posted them. Any feedback points more than 100 count as extra credit. There are 560 total points in the class.

Class Curve
430+ A The letter grades posted on Blackboard are
380-429 B meaningless. If you take 4 exams, Blackboard
330-379 C does not drop the lowest exam and so the
280-329 D Blackboard sum of points is incorrect

There will not be any "minus" grades in this class. I will award "plus" grades (like B+) as appropriate and will determine how to do so at the end of the term.

The learning goals of this course are an introduction to the components making up our Universe.

The learning outcome of this course is the student being able to explain some of the components of the Universe, and include a) analyze issues that interconnect human life and the natural world and b) utilize technology to achieve specific goals.

NIU is committed to providing an accessible educational environment and any student requiring an academic accommodation due to a disability should let their faculty member know as soon as possible, and are encouraged to contact the DRC at 815-753-1303 or drc@niu.edu.

Non-Discriminatory Language: This class will promote non-discriminatory language practices. Academic Misconduct: For a detailed description of the university's definition of academic misconduct, and the process by which it is adjudicated, please refer to the Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions (consequences) for committing academic misconduct include but are not limited to, failure of the assignment, failure of the course, and suspension or expulsion from Northern Illinois University. Cheating and plagiarism of one's own or another's work will not be tolerated. Academic
integrity and civility are expected of every member of
the NIU community. Please review the Undergraduate Catalog for more
information on this topic. Religious Observances: NIU does not observe
religious holidays. It is the university's policy, however, to reasonably
accommodate the religious observances of individual students in regards to
class attendance, scheduling examinations, and work requirements. Religious
observance includes all aspects of religious observance and practice as well
as belief. Absence from classes or examinations for religious observance does
not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course work
required during the period of absence. To request accommodation, students
who expect to miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a
consequence of their religious observance shall provide instructors with
reasonable notice of the date or dates they will be absent.