Physics 475
Automating the 16" Telescope and Observations of Galaxies

Meeting Times: My Office, TBA and occasional trips to the Observatory

Instructor: Dr. Norm Markworth
Office: 322F Miller Science
Office Hours: 1:30 -4:00pm Mon - Thurs, or by appointment

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Phone: 468-3001

Purpose
Physics 475 Special Problems involves experimental or theoretical independent study in research. The purpose of this Special Problems course is to give the student experience in robotics, telescope automation, and observations of galaxies for the purpose of supernova detection.

Assignments
On each class day there will be a new research and/or hands-on assignment. Each weekly report will be graded on a 100 point scale. The average all of the weekly reports will be used to determine the grade in the course. Letter grades are based on the ranges below.

A 90.0 - 100     B 80.0 - 89.9     C 70.0 - 79.9     D 60.0 - 69.9     F < 60.0

Email Communications
Make sure you always use your SFA e-mail account for network correspondence. Messages from your instructor will be sent to your SFA email account periodically.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.
Withheld Grades - *Semester Grades Policy (A-54)*

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

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**Acceptable Student Behavior**

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_conduct_code.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_conduct_code.asp)