

IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors

IDH 3931 - Prof. Eikenberry

The Extreme Cosmos

Syllabus for Fall 2020

- **Instructor: Stephen Eikenberry**
- **Web site:** astro.ufl.edu/~eiken/teaching.html [.\(http://www.astro.ufl.edu/~eiken/teaching.html\)](http://www.astro.ufl.edu/~eiken/teaching.html) + **CANVAS**
- **Text: Assigned readings weekly**

Class meetings: Mon 9 (4:05-4:55 PM)
Zoom-land

Office hours: By appointment

The Universe hosts a broad range of physical environments and phenomena. In the most extreme conditions, events and behaviors there can challenge our current understanding of the laws of Nature. In this 1-credit discussion-based Honors course, we will take an overview of some of the most extreme physical environments in the cosmos - some of which are in our own astrophysical "back yard". We will cover phenomena ranging from supernovae and gamma-ray bursts, to merging black holes, to Dark Matter and Dark Energy. Assignments will consist of weekly readings before class, with in-class activities focused on discussing the phenomena and their implications for our understanding of the Universe. While the course will be largely non-mathematical in its approach, some previous exposure to physics and mathematics at the college level will be required to facilitate the discussions.

Course goals:

The goal of this course is to provide a survey of the extreme astrophysical environments and phenomena in the Universe, and their potential implications for humanity.

Requirements:

1. **Assigned reading prior to class**
2. **Class participation in discussions (60% of grade)**
3. **Short topical paper due on the last day of class (40% of grade)**

Grading:

Given the above scoring (total of 100 points), the following grades will be assigned:

Grade	Minimum Score
A	93
A-	90
B+	87
B	83
B-	80
C+	77
C	73
C-	70
D+	67
D	63
D-	60

UF's grading policy, including calculation of grade points and GPA is available at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Contact Info:

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Policy Items:

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.



Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at

<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/> [\(https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/\)](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/).

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Mon Aug 31, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Sep 14, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Sep 21, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Sep 28, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Oct 5, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Oct 12, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Oct 19, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Oct 26, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Nov 2, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Nov 9, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Nov 16, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Nov 23, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm
Mon Nov 30, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors	4pm to 5pm

Date	Details	
Mon Dec 7, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1562630&include_contexts=course_408713)	4pm to 5pm
Mon Dec 14, 2020	 IDH3931-02SS(26363) - Interdisc Junior Honors (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1562631&include_contexts=course_408713)	4pm to 5pm