

Syllabus for Astr 5900 (Spring 2009):
Advanced Cosmology – Dark Energy

Course Information

Instructor: Prof. Yun Wang, NH 327, wang@nhn.ou.edu, 325-3961, ext 36327

Textbook: “Dark Energy”, by Yun Wang. To be published by Wiley (2009).

Enrolled students will receive a draft of the textbook.

Meeting Time and Place: Tue and Thurs: 2:45-4pm, NH 203

Office Hours: Stop by anytime.

General Description

This is a graduate level research course in cosmology. The emphasis will be on a comprehensive understanding of the dark energy problem, and the observational methods that allow us to shed light on dark energy. Students are assumed to be comfortable with physics, calculus and mathematical manipulations. Students who are not interested in the technical details in cosmology should *not* take this course.

Course Requirements

Attendance:

Students are required to attend all the class meetings.

Homework:

Students will read the textbook carefully, and write up a report for each chapter. The report will include the student’s description of what he/she has learned, and a list of comments on the textbook chapter. A due date will be set for each report. No late reports will be accepted.

Research Presentation:

The students will take turns in presenting the research material contained in each chapter. If no volunteers are found for a chapter, the instructor will assign the chapter to a randomly chosen student.

Course Grade

15% attendance, 45% homework, 40% research presentation.