

DAS 333
Fall 2006

Instructors: Dr. Oliver Weaver (Physics)
 Dr. Iris Totten (Geology)
 Dr. Keith Miller (Geology)
 Dr. Srinivas Kambhampati (Entomology)
 Dr. Dean Hall (English)
 Dr. Scott Tanona (Philosophy)

M,W,F 3:30 pm, Thompson Hall 101

Wk	D	Date	Label	Content	Readings
1	M	21-Aug	Intro 1	Course Introduction	Scientific Inquiry Invention and Test 1-47
	W	23-Aug	Intro 2	What is Science?	
	F	25-Aug	Phil 1	Theory, prediction, observation & experiment.	
2	M	28-Aug	Eng 1	Language of Science, Figurative Language, Metaphors for Life	Access English Reading One at K-State online
	W	30-Aug	Phys 1	Scale of the universe.	
	F	1-Sep	Phys 2	History of astronomy. Solar system models.	
3	M	4-Sep	None	Labor Day holiday	
	W	6-Sep	Phys 3	Gravity and the laws of motion.	
	F	8-Sep	Phys 4	Light. Understanding stars	
4	M	11-Sep	Eng 2	Meaning in Literature, Interpreting Literature, Interpreting Science	Access English Reading Two at K-State online Carl Hempel, Theoretical Reduction 470-476; Kuhn I 365-386.
	W	13-Sep	Phil 2		
	F	15-Sep	Phys 5	What is out there? Stars, clusters, galaxies, and dark matter.	
5	M	18-Sep	Phys 6	Expanding and cooling universe. Red shifts and cosmic background radiation.	
	W	20-Sep	Phys 7	Evolving universe -- our 14 billion year history.	
	F	22-Sep	Phys 8	Evolving universe continued	
6	M	25-Sep	Exam	Exam 1	Barry Barnes, Sociological Theories of Scientific Knowledge 60-73
	W	27-Sep	Phil 3	Influence of society on science, and the converse.	
	F	29-Sep	Geol 1	Composition and structure of Earth's interior. Models for formation of Earth.	
7	M	2-Oct		Fall Break holiday	
	W	4-Oct	Geol 2	Origins of the oceans and atmosphere. Conditions on the early Earth.	
	F	6-Oct	Geol 3	From fixed continents to plate tectonics	
8	M	9-Oct	Geol 4	Discovering Earth history. Reconstructing a timeline and applying uniformitarianism.	Rudwick -- Chapter 2
	W	11-Oct	Eng 3	How Science Affects Literature and Literary Thinking	Access English Reading

	F	13-Oct	Geol 5	Age of the Earth. Kelvin to radioactivity.	Three K-State online
9	M	16-Oct	Phil 4	Constructing and testing historical theories.	Carl Hempel, Science & Human Values 7-27
	W	18-Oct	Geol 6	The fossil record and the history of life.	Rudwick -- Chapter 3
	F	20-Oct	Geol 7	Evolution and transitional forms.	Miller -- Chapter 8 (Recomm)
10	M	23-Oct	Exam		Exam 2
	W	25-Oct	Phil 5	Challenges to the authority of science.	
	F	27-Oct	Bio 1	Natural selection. Basic concepts and evidence from field studies.	
11	M	30-Oct	Bio 2	Origin of life, theories and fossil evidence. Prokaryotes and eukarotes.	
	W	1-Nov	Bio 3	How does evolution occur?. Population genetics and evolutionary mechanisms.	
	F	3-Nov	Bio 4	Speciation. What are species and how do new ones evolve?	
12	M	6-Nov	Bio 5	Evolution of complex organs.	
	W	8-Nov	Phil 6	Open issues in biology.	
	F	10-Nov	Bio 6	Human evolution. Where did we come from? Who is related to us?	
13	M	13-Nov	Bio 7	Modern humans and natural selection. Are we subject to natural selection?	
	W	15-Nov	Phil 7	The limits of science.	
	F	17-Nov	Eng 4	Science in Literature (how science goes wrong in literature and film)	Access English Reading Four K-State online
14	M	20-Nov	Exam		Exam 3
	W	22-Nov	None		Thanksgiving holiday
	F	24-Nov	None		Thanksgiving holiday
15	M	27-Nov	Phys 9	Summary - The end of the universe	
	W	29-Nov	Eng 5	Reflections on death and dying in literature	Access English Reading Five K-State online
	F	1-Dec		Science, Philosophy, and Responsible Living	
16	M	4-Dec		Science, Philosophy, and Responsible Living	
	W	6-Dec		Review	
	F	8-Dec		Review	
E	T	12-Dec		Final Exam is on Tuesday, December 12th at 4:10-6:00 pm.	

OFFICE HOURS: Contact: Dr. Iris Totten
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By Appointment Only

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Human Life and the Universe: An interdisciplinary course offered by KSU's **Center for the Understanding of Origins** to address humanistic and scientific issues of origins of the universe, earth, life, intelligence, and language.

K-STATE ONLINE: For this course you will need to have access to K-State Online. You can access it through the K-State homepage at <http://ww-ksu.edu>. Log in with your user ID and a personal

password of your choice. This site will provide you with course information, access to your exam and quiz scores, and a message board for posting questions related to course content.

ASSIGNMENTS & CLASS ATTENDANCE: You will be expected to read the assigned readings. Regular class attendance is essential for you to be able to succeed in this course.

EXAMS: There will be three exams during the semester on the dates indicated, and a final exam. The final exam is comprehensive and will cover material from the entire semester.

MAKE-UP EXAMS: Makeup exams will be allowed **ONLY** if you have a written signed excuse for the date of the exam from your doctor, academic dean, or advisor. Dr. Iris Totten must also be notified of the absence either before the exam or by the next regularly scheduled class period. Make-up exams will be scheduled as needed.

GRADING: All grades will be available confidentially on the class KSU-Online site by individual password. The four exams during the semester will each be worth 20%. The remaining 20% of your grade will be determined by your homework. You will have opportunities throughout the semester to earn extra credit points by attending Origin sponsored seminars. Origins faculty will announce the seminar schedule throughout the semester.

HONOR CODE: An honor system for undergraduate students has been in effect since 1999. In this system, the honor pledge is implied, whether or not it is stated: "on my honor, as a student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work." Plagiarism, copying of other's work, use of written or other aids during hourly exams, all constitute violation of this pledge. A grade of XF can result from a violation of academic honesty. An XF would be failure of the course with the X on the transcript indicating failure as a result of a violation of academic honesty.