

# Fun Facts

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<https://myslu.stlawu.edu/~aodo/SLU/astronomy/index.htm>

TEXTS: **Pasachoff:** Peterson Field Guides: Stars and Planets,  
**Ryan:** Cycles, **Raymo:** 365 Starry Nights, Raymo  
**Fraknoi:** OpenStax Astronomy

## SCIENCE

Science is simply a long and careful look beneath and beyond the world's skin. In the same field where I see only a muddle of anonymous green, Henry David Thoreau, scientist of Walden Pond, saw infinite variety: cotton grass, foxtail, life-everlasting, goldenrod, Saint Johnswort, mullein, meadowsweet. An astronomer sees a sky far richer than mine, filled with quasars and pulsars, galaxies and nebulae. In all that bickering at the bird feeder, an ornithologist sees pair bonds and pecking order. In that annoying rock dug out of the strawberry patch, a geologist sees grey granite left in the 10,000-year-old path of glaciers. This new depth of seeing has taken us from the beetles in our own back yards to the particles inside the atom and the gaseous glow at the end of the universe.

-- Rebecca Rupp

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

### 1) Attendance & Labs - Counts as one exam.

- Lab Work** - Class exercises completed & handed in during class period  
- Labs missed by excused absences may be made up with permission  
Handing in work or data that are not your own is plagiarism

### 2) Observing - Each explained at the time of assignment, each worth one exam

CONSTELLATIONS  
OVERNIGHT STAR WATCH  
SEMESTER SUN WATCH  
SPRING MOON WATCH

**YOU MUST COMPLETE THE  
OBSERVING PROJECTS TO  
PASS THE COURSE!!**

### 3) Exams - Three as scheduled in the calendar, part individual, part group work.

### 4) Final - Scheduled for 8:30 AM, Monday, May 4, 2026.

- **Cumulative** over all material from the semester (Yep, all of it!)  
- Worth **twice** as much as a regular exam

AN EXAM IS WORTH 1/10<sup>TH</sup> OR 10% OF THE FINAL GRADE

THE FINAL GRADE WILL BE A SIMPLE AVERAGE OF ALL THE GRADES SCALED TO:

|      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 4.0  | 3.75  | 3.5   | 3.25  | 3.0   | 2.75  | 2.5   | 2.25  | 2.0   | 1.75  | 1.5   | 1.25  | 1.0   | 0.0 |
| >94% | 91-94 | 88-91 | 85-88 | 82-85 | 79-82 | 76-79 | 73-76 | 70-73 | 67-70 | 64-67 | 61-64 | 58-61 | <58 |

with the instructor's subjective freedom for the treatment of borderline cases!

***It is not an option to take this course pass-fail***

## CANVAS

### Lecture Power Points in the Modules

#### Title IX Syllabus Statement: <https://www.stlawu.edu/offices/title-ix>

MEMBERS OF THE ST. LAWRENCE COMMUNITY—students, employees, and guests— should expect to be free from retaliation, discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct, behavior that is inherently abusive of the humanity that each of us brings to the campus community. St. Lawrence University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct. St. Lawrence strongly encourages students to report retaliation, discrimination, harassment, including sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to St. Lawrence University's Title IX office. Discrimination on the basis of sex includes discrimination on the basis of assigned sex at birth, sex characteristics, pregnancy and pregnancy related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

If you speak with a faculty member about an incident that involves a Title IX matter or matter of other discrimination or harassment, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX Coordinator that you shared that experience. This is true even if you ask the faculty member not to disclose the incident. Moreover, if you disclose an incident of retaliation, discrimination, harassment, or sexual misconduct in an academic assignment, the faculty member must also report that experience to the Title IX Coordinator.

Once a report is made, the reporting individual can expect to receive email outreach from the Title IX Coordinator, who will provide resources and possible resolution options. If the impacted person is not a threat to themselves or others, the impacted person will be free not to respond to the offer to meet. You can find more information for resources and reporting options at: <https://www.stlawu.edu/offices/title-ix/reporting-options-confidential-and-nonconfidential-resources>.

Title IX also protects students who are pregnant or need assistance for pregnancy related conditions. If you are pregnant, the Title IX Coordinator can assist you in understanding your rights and options as well as provide supportive measures.

Lindsey Tropper (Cohen) is the Title IX Coordinator at St. Lawrence University (Student Center Room 302; [lcohen@stlawu.edu](mailto:lcohen@stlawu.edu); 315-229-5334).

#### STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES: <mailto:studentaccessibility@stlawu.edu>

If you have a learning difference/disability or other health impairment and need accommodations please be sure to contact the **Student Accessibility Services Office** right away so they can help you get the accommodations you require. If you need to use any accommodations in this class, please meet with your instructor early and provide them with your Individualized Educational Accommodation Plan (IEAP) letter so you can have the best possible experience this semester.

Although not required, your instructor would like to know of any accommodations that are needed at least 10 days before a quiz or test. Please be proactive and set up an appointment to meet with someone from the Student Accessibility Services Office.

#### **Color-Vision Deficiency:**

If you are Color-Vision Deficient, the Student Accessibility Services office has on loan glasses for students who are color vision deficient. Please contact the office to make an appointment. (The Physics Department also has a pair of glasses to loan.)

For more specific information about setting up an appointment with Student Accessibility Services please see the listed options below:

Telephone: (315) 229-5537, Email: [studentaccessibility@stlawu.edu](mailto:studentaccessibility@stlawu.edu),

Website: <https://www.stlawu.edu/student-accessibility-services>

#### The Peterson Quantitative Resource Center (PQRC): <mailto:pqrc@stlawu.edu>

Located in Valentine Hall, it offers free, no appointment necessary peer tutoring across a range of courses with quantitative content. The PQRC student staff of mentors is trained to assist students to develop and to improve their quantitative skills and understanding. More information about the PQRC's current hours and modes of operation can be found at the PQRC webpage.