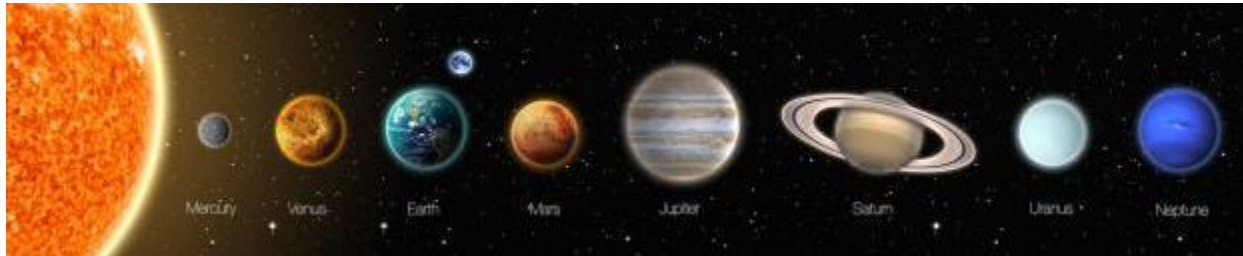


# GEOL 1010 – FYS: Planetology



**Instructor:** Nico Perdrial [nicolas.perdrial@uvm.edu](mailto:nicolas.perdrial@uvm.edu)  
Office: Delehanty 319  
Office hours: Thursdays and Fridays, 9 -10 am in person, on TEAMS and by appointment

**Class Times:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:40 – 12:55, DELEHANTY 101

**Description:** The wonders of the night sky, the Moon and the Sun have fascinated mankind for many millennia. What are these objects, akin to the Earth? What shapes them? How do they compare to our planet? Are any of them inhabited? During this *First Year Seminar* class, open to all science background, we will explore the solar system and answer these questions. From its formation till the recent discovery of planet nine we will venture, dissect and orbit around the planetary bodies to discover their specificities and similarities. Part of this class will be writing intensive and part of this class will be centered on a final project. Lectures, debate, group work, and computer-based lab work will ensure a student-paced learning environment.

## Course Goals:

- At the end of the course you will be able to apply the scientific method, think critically and communicate your findings to a wide audience.
- You will be able to describe and compare objects within the solar system as an interrelated system.

**Assessment:** I will assess your learning through a variety of ways, including online quizzes, participation during discussions, discussion summaries, in class exercises and a final project. This final project will consist in a student-led video summarizing one discussion from the class.

The grading will be as follow: Attendance: 25%; Quizzes: 25%; In-class discussions: 25%; Final project: 25%.

You are allowed 2 unexcused absences before your attendance grade starts being affected

**Discussions:** Based on reading material and videos we will have frequent discussions (highlighted in green in the table below) in the class. You will be asked to write a short summary of the discussion afterward.



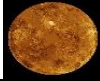



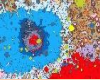



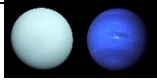
**Quizzes:** Based on course content, you will regularly answer 10 questions online quizzes (highlighted in blue in the table below). You will be given 2 tries for each quiz and they will be available for a full week.

**Final Project:** The final project will consists in making a short video (report-style) of one of the in-class discussion in pairs.

**Brightspace:** Brightspace will be used regularly during the course. Materials, assignments and grades will be regularly posted on the course Brightspace page. Make sure to access it often.

**Textbook:** No textbook is required

## Tentative schedule:

	Tuesday	Thursday	Assignments
Week 1 Aug 29 - 31	What is a FYS? What is planetology?	Brief history of the universe. Origin of the solar system.	Syllabus quiz
Week 2 Sept 5-7	Interplanetary medium, cometes and collisions	The Sun 	The Sun quiz
Week 3 Sept 12-14	Composition of the Stars Student-led discussion	Mercury 	Discussion summary
Week 4 Sept 19 - 21	Venus 	Venus: Why are we not going there?	Discussion summary
Week 5 Sept 26-28	How to make a video	Earth I 	Video quiz
Week 6 Oct 3-5	Earth II 	The Moon	Formation of the Moon
Week 7 Oct 10-12	Guest Video - Liz Rampe	Mars 	Mars
Week 8 Oct 17-19	Guest Video - Mark Panning	Mars vs Earth - discussion	Discussion summary
Week 9 Oct 24-26	Planetary GIS 	Planetary GIS 	GIS render
Week 10 Oct 31 - Nov 2	Asteroid belt	Mining Space - discussion	Discussion summary
Week 11 Nov 7-9	Jupiter 	Saturn 	Video draft
Week 12 Nov 14-16	Uranus/Neptune 	Is pluto a planet?	Discussion summary
Week 13 Nov 21-23	Fall Recess	Fall Recess	
Week 14 Nov 28-30	Exoplanets - Drake equation	Guest Video - Cynthia Phillips	Is there life elsewhere?
Week 15 Dec 5-7	Work on videos	Videos official release	Final Videos
	<i>All dates subject to change</i>		
			Online Quiz
			Discussion summary
			in-class exercise rendering

**Student Learning Accommodations:** In keeping with University policy, any student with a documented disability interested in utilizing accommodations should contact ACCESS, the office of Disability Services on campus. ACCESS works with students and faculty in an interactive process to explore reasonable and appropriate accommodations via an accommodation letter to faculty with recommended accommodations as early as possible each semester. Contact ACCESS: A170 Living/Learning Center; 802-656-7753; [access@uvm.edu](mailto:access@uvm.edu); [www.uvm.edu/access](http://www.uvm.edu/access)

**Writing Center:** For support and feedback at any point in the writing process, you can consult with a tutor at the Writing Center. For more information about the Writing Center, including a list of tutors and their majors/minors, see [www.uvm.edu/writingcenter](http://www.uvm.edu/writingcenter). To make an appointment online, go to [www.uvm.edu/tutor](http://www.uvm.edu/tutor). At the end of your session, you can request that the tutor email me a copy of your session description.

**UVM's policy on disability certification and student support:**

[www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/disability.pdf](http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/disability.pdf)

**Religious Holidays:** Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. If you need to miss class to observe a religious holiday, please submit the dates of your absence to me in writing by the end of the second full week of classes. You will be permitted to make up work within a mutually agreed-upon time.

**Academic Integrity:** The policy addresses plagiarism, fabrication, collusion, and cheating.

<http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/acadintegrity.pdf>

**Grade Appeals:** If you would like to contest a grade, please follow the procedures outlined in this policy:

<http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/gradeappeals.pdf>

**Grading:** For information on grading and GPA calculation, go to [www.uvm.edu/academics/catalogue](http://www.uvm.edu/academics/catalogue) and click on Policies for an A-Z listing.

**Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities:** [www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/studentcode.pdf](http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/studentcode.pdf)

**FERPA Rights Disclosure:** The purpose of this policy is to communicate the rights of students regarding access to, and privacy of their student educational records as provided for in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. <http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/ferpa.pdf>

*It is forbidden to use the computers for other purposes than the course requirement during class meeting time. Therefore you are expected to not check emails, facebook, twitter or other applications/websites non-related to the class during class meeting times.*