

**Course:** AST 376C: COSMOLOGY

**Semester:** Spring 2019

**Unique No.:** 46645

**Hours:** T, Th 12:30 – 2 p.m.

**Location:** RLM 15.216B

**Textbook:** (Required) Ryden, B. *Introduction to Cosmology* (2016) (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)  
(Cambridge University Press) ISBN 9781107154834

**Exams:** There will be two exams during the semester and no final exam.  
Tentative Exam Dates: March 14, May 9.

**Homework:** There will be required reading assignments. Problems will be assigned regularly and must be handed in. They should be handed in at the beginning of class on the due date. Late HW is discouraged but will be accepted with a maximum possible score of 80% of on-time HW, if turned in by the *start* of the next Help Session following the due date. Since HW solutions will be discussed at that Help Session, no later HW will be accepted.

**Daily Questions:**

Class lectures are essential to this course. Students must engage actively with them in order to learn, by regular attendance and note-taking and by asking and answering questions during class. Most classes (except exam days) will end with a Daily Question, with answers collected and graded.

**Grading:** The course grade will be based on the weighted average of the scores on a midterm exam (20%), a second-half exam (20%), homework sets (50%), and Daily Questions (10%). We will drop your lowest homework grade before computing your final average homework grade, and drop your two lowest Daily Question grades before computing your final average Daily Question grade.

**Quantitative Reasoning Flag:**

This course carries the Quantitative Reasoning flag. Quantitative Reasoning courses are designed to equip you with skills that are necessary for understanding the types of quantitative arguments you will regularly encounter in your adult and professional life. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from your use of quantitative skills to analyze real-world problems.

**Instructor:** Prof. Paul Shapiro  
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Office Hours: Immediately following class or by appointment

**T.A.:** Taha Dawoodbhoy  
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Office Hours: W 10 – 11:30 a.m.

**Help Session:** M, W 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., RLM 15.216B