Course information:
This is an online course that explores our Solar System. It requires students to be fairly skilled in the use of the Internet. We will be communicating using UH’s online course software Laulima through which you will access and submit all course materials, and Cengage Unlimited which will provide access to online materials, mindtap and webassign. More information on Cengage Unlimited will be provided before the course begins.

Instructor:
Peter Englert, Hawaii Institute of Geophysics and Planetology
Contact information: office - POST 508 B, penglert@hawaii.edu

Office hours: If you have questions or concerns just email me and I always respond as quickly as I can. I will “officially” be able to answer emails 3x/week, Tuesday through Thursday until 7am - 11pm. If you have emailed me and haven’t received an immediate reply, please be patient before you try me again. I should also be able to get back to you very quickly throughout the remainder of the week.

Instructional Philosophy of the Course
The overarching goals of this course are for you to understand the nature of science through engagement with planetary science and astronomy and to develop a lifelong interest in understanding our solar system and the universe beyond. To meet these goals I have designed a sequence of learning tasks and assessment procedures.

Course Technologies and Equipment
We will be using Cengage Unlimited which will provide access to online materials, mindtap and webassign. This course will also use Laulima as a means of communication and material access. If you are new to Laulima, you can use the Student support page. During the semester, if technology questions arise, call the Information Technology Services (ITS) at (808) 956-8853 or Toll Free (800)-558-2669. You can also click on the “Help” button in the Laulima course shell and it will connect you to helpful resources to get you through just about any issue.

Learning Objectives/Course Objectives
University-Level Learning Objectives
The design and structure of the course delivers learning outcomes aligned with the University of Hawaii Institutional Learning Objectives for Undergraduate Students. The course:
• Gives in depth experience in the conduct of scientific inquiry and research;
• Engages students in continuous practice with critical and creative thinking;
• Is structured around procedures of conducting research in Earth and planetary science;
• Engages students through intensive interaction with instructors and peers by means of classroom activities and projects;
• Directly cultivates the habits of scholarly inquiry and intellectual curiosity, including inquiry across disciplines.

Department-Level Learning Objectives
• Students can explain the relevance of Voyage through the Solar System outcomes to human needs;
• Students can apply knowledge of relevant research methods, and the supporting disciplines to solve real world problems;
• Students use the scientific method to define, critically analyze, and solve a problem in solar system science;
• Students can report solar system knowledge in both oral presentations and written reports;
• Students can evaluate, interpret, and summarize the basic principles of solar system science, and their context in relationship to other core sciences, to explain complex phenomena.

Course-Level Student Learning Objectives:
1. Explain how the Scientific Method works, apply it to evaluate good vs. bad science and to analyze and assess data and draw conclusions about the world;
2. Develop a better understanding and appreciation for the world we live in, extending beyond our home planet Earth; and
3. Demonstrate improved communication skills that will serve you throughout life by collaborating in writing, presenting & displaying data to communicate your knowledge, analysis, synthesis of data and ideas and your assessment of what it means.
Course Evaluation and Assessment
Students will be given final grades based on the total number of points received from weekly assignments and quizzes, and from exams. To grade assignments, I must be able to read and understand them. Spelling, rules of English composition and legibility will count in grading. Note: plagiarism and/or cheating will result with an F for the test or assignment.

Grading Scale:  A=90-100%,  B=80-89.99%,  C=70-79.99%,  D=60-69.99%,  F=Less than 60%.

Tips for success
Lectures: Watch every lecture, as they are the key to your success in this course.
Homework: Do each homework assignment, and submit each one on time. Homework assignments help you learn the material and are a great study guide for the exams.
Exams: Do not miss an exam. Study. Read. Review.
Questions: Questions are welcome and encouraged. Your questions are likely to help other students as well, so you should always ask questions about course material.
Read: Your reading assignment will reinforce lecture materials, so complete each assignment. Read each week to keep up with course notes.
Class participation: Be sure to always read class-related emails and online announcements to enhance your participation and stay current.

Students are expected to watch all online presentations, read the assigned readings, and complete all assignments on time. Students are expected to pay attention to online announcements and course documents. The instructor will send emails to individual students.

You must use your UH email account or make sure it is forwarded to other accounts if you use them. The instructor takes no responsibility if you fail to check your UH email account.

Please note: for any email you send me, please include in the subject line: your full name, course name (GG105), and the topic of your email (e.g. Valentino Rossi GG105 Jupiter Module Quiz). If you just sign off with “KC” and the email came from awesomestudent@hawaii.com I won’t be able to figure out who it is! Keep to one topic (the one indicated in the subject line) in your discussion. End with your full name since other students may have your same first name.

Types of Assignments
Video Lectures (topic lectures and any other videos I may post)
Readings (usually a textbook chapter but I my post other material too)
Quizzes (based on module topics)
Mid-term exams

NOTE: Please read this section carefully and completely!
Late work will NEVER be accepted and I cannot extend the deadlines for any reason. Missing the weekly deadlines for assignments for any reason results in an automatic zero. Assignments, quizzes and exams may NOT be made up later than the due date so please do not ask.
Network Outage Plan
Since this is an online course it relies heavily on the Internet and having a good Internet connection. Your quizzes and exams are taken over the Internet so make sure you are somewhere with a good connection. Occasionally there are internal problems with UH’s network or online platforms. Usually these problems are temporary and your quizzes and exams will not be affected. More often than not, there are external problems with your Internet service or your connection. For this reason, I would suggest that you get your assignments completed well before the deadline approaches. If you have issues taking a quiz or exam, and it is NOT within two hours of the deadline, I will always happily reset a quiz or exam for you. Just email me and will respond as promptly as I can. However, if it is within two hours of the deadline there may not be time for me to respond and you will not get a second chance.

Protocols for communicating with your instructor and other students via the Internet
• The most important rule of communicating electronically is, “Think before you post!”
• Send emails from an educational or a military account only. The instructor will not respond to any other email addresses.
• In the subject line of emails indicate who you are, which class you’re in, and what the content of the email is, for example “Kelsey Jones, GG105: question on Chap 3 about Jupiter’s atmosphere”.
• Sign off with your full name at the end of your email.
  • Emailing, messaging and posting on discussion boards in academia are different from emailing buddies and posting in newsgroups. You are expected to be courteous at all times.
  • Email doesn't have the subtleties of spoken or face-to-face conversation, and it's remarkably easy to be misunderstood or to offend someone. Therefore, stay polite: “I have been working on this assignment for the past 2 hours – but am not getting any further. I like you to give me some advice.” Be nice.
• Assume that the instructor is willing to help you with problems, “Dr. Englert, please get back to me at your earliest convenience.” Hence, intend to post using positive language. I am here to help you.
• Avoid internet slang such as btw (by the way), l8r (later), addy (address). Write in whole sentences with proper punctuation, grammar and spelling. Don’t make it difficult for me to understand.
• If you are referring to a previous email, post, or textbook passage, include and quote the reference properly. It makes it more convenient for the instructor to be reminded of the original content and to not have to search for the original.
• If you believe someone has violated these procedures, do not post a follow-up to the offending post. Send a private email to your instructor about the violation and let the instructor handle the situation. Do not try to resolve it on your own. Be polite.
• Do not use all caps and do not use exclamation points. THAT’S LIKE SHOUTING!!!!!!!
• Do not presume someone received your email – errors do occur. If it is an assignment or an important question, send it ‘return receipt requested’.
• Allow the instructor time to respond. If you send an email or post a message on the weekend or on a weekday late afternoon, do not expect an instructor’s response until later in the evening or the next business day.
Other Resources

Disability Access:
The Earth Science Department will make every effort to assist those with disability and related access needs. For confidential services, please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (known as “Kokua”) located in the Queen Lili‘uokalani Center for Student Services (Room 013): 956-7511, kokua@hawaii.edu, www.hawaii.edu/kokua

Learning Assistance Center (LAC) is here to help students:
• Use appropriate study skills to achieve academic goals.
• Learn how to adjust learning approaches to fit their individual learning needs.
• Learn how to study effectively with others.
• Use effective learning practices.
• Use self-reliant learning behaviors.
• Have a functional understanding of course content. www.manoa.hawaii.edu/learning

Gender-Based Discrimination or Violence
University of Hawaii is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, the University has staff and resources to support and assist you. Staff can also direct you to community resources. Here are some options:
• If you wish to speak with someone CONFIDENTIALLY, contact the confidential resources available here: http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/resources.html#confidential
• If you wish to REPORT an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, contact: Dee Uwono, Title IX Coordinator, Hawai‘i Hall 124, t9uhm@hawaii.edu, (808) 956-2299
• As members of the University faculty, your instructors are required to immediately report any incident of potential sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and your instructors cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.