Introduction to Scientific Observing, Winter ’06, Astronomy Expectations

What you need to do to receive credit in this class:

Note that due dates are *Not Flexible unless noted below.* Failure to meet a due date will result in receiving no credit.

1. Participate in class discussions and activities.

2. Learn the names of 15 stars and be able to point them out in the night sky. (Due Dec 12, weather dependent)

3. Learn the names of 10 constellations and be able to point them out in the night sky. (Due Dec 12, weather dependent)

4. Give a 5 minute oral presentation of one constellation. Use drawings, images, and stories to bring your constellation alive for the audience. Teach what it looks like, the named stars in it (and what they mean), how to find it, myths surrounding it. (Due Dec 6)

5. Keep a daily astronomical journal. See separate guidelines. Journals should be placed on my desk for review each Wednesday before school starts.

6. As a class group, complete a sun track three times during the trimester. There must be at least two weeks between dates. Write a one page typed essay describing the changing tracks. (Essay due March 1)

7. Design a project to make a series of quantitative observations of an object in the sky. Present a written proposal for your project. Make observations. Report your findings in a 10 minute presentation to the class. Submit a Draft of a paper, and a Final paper. The best presentation will be presented to the Central Maine Astronomical Society at a monthly meeting. Draw some conclusions about your observations. (See separate handout for details.) (See calendar for due dates)

8. Attend 4 out of 5 star parties.

9. Score at least a 75% on the Astronomy final assessment. Retake the assessment until a grade of 75% is reached