A course syllabus is not the same as a course outline. A course syllabus outlines the general requirements for a course. A course outline is the specific document created by the individual faculty member to distribute to a specific course section. This is an “abbreviated” course syllabus because it is only collecting information on the course number, title, description, and learning outcomes. Please submit this completed form electronically to Dean Britton.

PLEASE NOTE: Any changes made to the Course Number, Title, or Catalog Description must go through the regular faculty governance process. This Expedited Process of Approval, which expires in March 2012, only pertains to approval of the Learning Outcomes. Therefore, this is NOT the form to be used to change course numbers, titles, or descriptions. This is NOT the form to use for proposing a new course. (See the Governance website for those types of proposals.)

I. Course Number and Title:

AST 101/ES 21

II. Catalog Description:

Introduction to fundamental aspects of planetary science. Topics include historical development of astronomy; basic concepts of celestial coordinates and motions; properties and individual characteristics of planets and their moons, asteroids, comets and meteoroids; and origin and evolution of solar system. Students also learn to identify celestial objects (constellations, prominent stars, planets, etc.) utilizing planetarium, telescopes and unaided eye. Occasional evening observations required.

III. *Learning Outcomes: (Main concepts, principles, and skills you want students to learn from this course) The Learning Outcomes listed here should be considered the minimum core outcomes for the course. Many other learning outcomes may also be a part of the learning experience within the course.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Make measurements using the metric system and perform simple forms of data analysis to enhance problem-solving skills.

2. Understand the night sky by knowing major stars and constellations as well as tracking the motions of the sky, the Moon, and planets. To accomplish this, you will learn how to use a planisphere (star finder) and become familiar with the horizon coordinate system.

3. Understand the scientific method and how it applies to astronomy. This will provide an understanding of how our ideas about the solar system (and universe) have evolved over the ages, especially during the past century while using technological advances.

4. Understand the basic properties of the Earth and how they compare to other worlds.

5. Know the essential properties of the Sun and its role within the Solar System.

*These statements must appear verbatim in course outlines. However, additional outcomes may be added to individual course outlines at the instructor's discretion.

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6. Learn the properties of the planets, asteroids, comets, and other objects within the solar system. Using this information, you will be able to understand how these physical properties can be used to form a standard theory on the formation and evolution of the Solar System.

7. Have a clear understanding of the scale of the solar system and our position within the universe.

8. Have a sufficient understanding of astronomical phenomena so as to have an appreciation of recent developments in the field.

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Name of Discipline Lead: ____________________________

Discipline Vote:

For__________  Against__________  Abstention__________

Date of Vote: ____________
_(Initial and Date)_________  Certification of Vote by AVP of Academic Affairs
_(Initial and Date)_________  Certification of Vote by College Curriculum Chair

*These statements must appear verbatim in course outlines. However, additional outcomes may be added to individual course outlines at the instructor’s discretion.

Revised 1/10