

Astronomy

Fall 2026

Weeks 1 - 2

Tuesday, August 11

- T: Intro and Safety
- O: I will understand and comply with classroom procedures and policies and I will become an expert on laboratory safety
- D: by completing a safety contract.

Dr. Christian Edgar

Astronomy and
Physics

About me:

6th year at MacArthur, 20th year teaching

BA in Chemical Physics, minors in math and computer science

Masters of Education in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Doctorate of Education in K-12 Leadership

Army Veteran, 6 years as an MP with the 101st Airborne

Thursday, August 13

- T: intro topics and vocab
- O: I will be able to define and properly use introductory vocabulary
- D: by writing down definitions and sentences using these words.

units of measurement

- time, distance, velocity, acceleration

Words you should know:

- latitude
- longitude
- degrees - minutes - seconds
- equinox
- solstice
- equator
- azimuth
- altitude
- horizon
- celestial

Tuesday, August 18

- (substitute) – Preview Textbook questions.

Thursday, August 20

- T: 5A evaluate and communicate how ancient civilizations developed models of the universe using astronomical structures, instruments, and tools such as the astrolabe, gnomons, and charts and how those models influenced society, time keeping, and navigation; 5C describe and explain the historical origins of the perceived patterns of constellations and the role of constellations in ancient and modern navigation.
- O: I will be able to observe stars and determine their relationship to seasons
- D: by using the Stellarium software and completing the Nature's Calendar assignment.
- A: celestial, horizon, azimuth
- Y: How did early astronomers use the stars to determine the seasons?

Friday, August 21

- T: **5A** evaluate and communicate how ancient civilizations developed models of the universe using astronomical structures, instruments, and tools such as the astrolabe, gnomons, and charts and how those models influenced society, time keeping, and navigation;
- **5C** describe and explain the historical origins of the perceived patterns of constellations and the role of constellations in ancient and modern navigation.
- O: I will be able to demonstrate my understanding of the rotation of the Earth and how it affects celestial bodies
- D: by completing 3 Page Keeleys and a Stellarium simulation.
- A: constellations, azimuth
- Y: How do the starts change as the year progresses?

Journal 1.1

- What are my strategies to succeed this school year?
- Journals can be written in your notebook or typed in your virtual notebook.
- For each journal, you will need three things:
 - 1) write the date
 - 2) write the prompt (the question)
 - 3) write AT LEAST 4 sentences in response to the prompt.