

May 4, 2006

To: LHAG Members

From: John Flaherty

Re: Instructions for use of online Astronomy WebCT course & eBook CD

The following are a written version of the instructions I gave at my last Wednesday night presentation. Some of you who couldn't attend the presentation have requested a copy of the eBook CD and these instructions. If I had thought of it, I would have prepared and handed out these instructions during my presentation. Better late than never, here are the instructions:

### **How To Access The Online WebCT Astronomy Course & Resources**

1. Go to [www.yccd.edu](http://www.yccd.edu)
2. Click on WebCT on the lower right hand side.
3. Click on "computer and the hardware and/or software" hot buttons.
4. Go to "Plug Ins" and you will see "Real Player" and "Quick Time" (also called iTunes). You will need these two free softwares on you computer to fully use the animations in this course. If you do not already have these on your computer, download these. Make sure you get the "FREE" copy of these for that is all you need.
- (5. You may also have to go to [www.java.com](http://www.java.com) and download their free java technology software by Sun Microsystems to use some of the material in this course.)
6. Go back to steps 1 & 2 if need be and now click on "Log in to My WebCT".
7. This will bring you to the WebCT log in page. You will see:  
WebCT ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
Password: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Web CT ID is:  
**student041** ..... to .... **student069** (i.e. 29 separate log in ID's so if one doesn't work try another one)  
and the Password is:  
**student**
8. After logging in as above a screen will come up that says "Welcome, Student StudentXXX" and "**Astro-1: Intro to Astronomy (Demo Course)** Instructor: John Flaherty". Click on "**Astro-1** ....." and this will take you to the course.
9. A screen will come up and in the center middle will be "ASTRONOMY A Beginners Guide to the Universe" which is the title of the book for this course. This entire book is on the eBook CD that I handed out in my presentation.
10. Down the left side under "Course Menu" you will find many entrees. If you go to "Read This First" and click on this, a Acrobat Reader .pdf file will come up which is a 7 page document with very detailed instructions on this course and how to use all the resources in this course. You can print this for reference if you wish.
11. The things that I think will be of particular interest to you in this course, I believe, are:  
Course Content (here is suggest you look at Images, Animations & Web Destinations)

Interactive Tutorials  
Physlet Illustrations

Film Viewing (These films are well done for this most part but some are out of date. New versions of these films will be available in this online Astronomy course this Fall.)

You are welcome to experiment with anything else you see in this course. This course has been set up for just the members of LHAG and therefore there is nothing you can do that will disturb my regular on going online Astronomy courses. So feel free to experiment.

12. In the “Course Menu” there is an entree called Private Mail. Here you can send me a message and I will respond to you. So if you are having any trouble accessing this course, just send me a message and I will try to help you.

### **How To Use The eBook CD**

1. Again to use this CD you will have to have the software outlined above loaded onto your computer.
  2. Place the CD in your CD-ROM drive.
  3. Open your Web Browser (i.e. Netscape, Internet Explorer, etc.)
  4. Under File go to OPEN.
  5. Browse to you CD-Rom drive.
  6. You should then see three files entitled:
    - Chaisson
    - SkyChart III Installer
    - StarteBook
  7. Click on StarteBook and click OPEN which will start the entree into this electronic (e) book.
  8. Then click OK on the screen that next appears.
  9. On the screen that appears you will see a picture of the book for this course called ASTRONOMY A Beginners Guide to the Universe by Chaisson and McMillan.
  10. At the lower left is an icon of a CD with the over title of “About the CD”. Here are some detail instructions on how to use this CD. Note this CD works for Mac of PC computers and the directions for both are here.
  11. I suggest you now click on Part 1 of this course and it will open up chapters entitled:
    - Prologue
    - 1. The Copernican Revolution
    - 2. Light and Matter
    - 3. Telescopes
  12. Now open up the first chapter entitled Prologue. You will see the beginning of the full text of this book. In you scroll down and hit NEXT it will take you to the next page. At the end of the chapter if you hit CHAPTER REVIEW it will take you to the chapter review. You might want to experiment with this and the ‘hot keys’ in this review which take you back to exact place in the chapter where you can find the answers to the information asked. Try it!
  13. Down the left side there are the letters “p” for Physlet Illustration, ‘t’ for Tutorials, ‘a’ for Animations. These are especially interactive and I will think you will enjoy playing with these. You get to interactive and put in different parameters and experiment with what happens. Try these!
  14. If you need a copy of this eBook CD, please E-Mail me at  
jflaherty@starstream.net
- Enjoy!