Planetary Science & Astrobiology Seminar (PSAS)

EAS 4801/8001
1 credit hour letter or S/U grading

Fall 2021

Professor: Dr. Frances Rivera-Hernández (she/her/hers)
Email: friverah@gatech.edu
Office hours: Virtual by appointment.

Other Points of Contact
Dr. Jennifer Glass (she/her/hers)   jennifer.glass@gatech.edu
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Class schedule
Friday 11:25AM-12:15PM ET, online via Bluejeans

Objectives
Astrobiology is an interdisciplinary field that crosscuts many research interests and departments across Georgia Tech and is of key importance to planetary science. The aim of this course is to expose students to the diversity of research areas that encompass astrobiology and planetary science, and to enhance the communication between astrobiologists, planetary scientists, engineers, and other space enthusiasts on campus. Each week an invited speaker (internal or external) will present on a topic related to astrobiology and/or planetary science for 40-45 min, with time for questions and discussion.

This course will be taught all semesters and is a requirement for the Graduate Astrobiology Certificate Program.

Virtual meeting information
Platform: Bluejeans, please visit this website to learn more about this platform and how to access it: https://bluejeans.gatech.edu/

Meeting URL
https://bluejeans.com/142300443?src=join_info

Meeting ID
142 300 443

Want to dial in from a phone?

Dial one of the following numbers:
+1.404.458.0105 (United States)
+1.408.419.1715 (United States(San Jose))
+44.203.608.5256 (UK (London))
(see all numbers - https://www.bluejeans.com/numbers)

Enter the meeting ID and passcode followed by #

Connecting from a room system?
Dial: bjn.vc or 199.48.152.152 and enter your meeting ID & passcode

Grading
Attendance & Participation in Class Discussions: 100%

Attendance policy
Passing grades will be awarded to students who miss no more than 2 of the course meetings. Please e-mail the instructor in advance if you anticipate being absent (e.g., religious holidays, pre-approved professional activities) or as soon as possible after the absence begins (e.g., unexpected injury or illness).

Reading
There is no required text for this course. However, students are encouraged to read the papers and materials discussed in presentations.

Communications
Communications will mainly be conducted over Canvas, Bluejeans, and email. Seminar and speaker information will be provided the Monday before each class.

Course accessibility and accommodations
We are committed to creating an accessible and equitable learning environment for all students. If you anticipate or experience any learning barriers in this course, you are invited (but not required) to share your concerns with Dr. Rivera-Hernández to discuss potential solutions.

If you are a student with a disability or think you may have a disability, we also recommend that you contact Georgia Tech's Office of Disability Services. They can help you document your needs and create an appropriate accommodation plan without disclosing any private information to the instructor. The Office of Disability Services can be reached by phone at (404) 894-2563 or email at dsinfo@gatech.edu. If you have already been approved for accommodations through the Office of Disability Services, please email Dr. Rivera-Hernández as soon as possible to develop an implementation plan together.

Names and Pronouns
Everyone has the right to be addressed by the name and pronouns they choose and go by in their daily life. In this course, you are invited (but not required) to share the name and pronouns you go by. You are all invited to also share name pronunciations in class and/or using phonetic spelling. As this is a virtual course, you can share this information on Bluejeans by editing your display name on the participant list and/or on Canvas by editing your User Settings (instructions). It is important that everyone respects each other and uses the names and pronouns

that others share. If a mistake happens, please apologize, and correct yourself. We will not tolerate disrespectful comments or actions to others.

Inclusion, Discrimination, and Harassment
We are committed to creating a learning environment in which all students feel safe, valued, respected, and included. We are all responsible for creating a space in which we can accomplish this goal. To this end, discrimination or harassment of any kind will not be tolerated, whether intentional or unintentional. This includes, but is not limited to, discrimination or harassment based on race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, ethnic and national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, family status and responsibilities, personal appearance, political affiliation, marital status, gender identity, or expression, genetics, or any other classifications, activities, or conditions. You can find the official campus policies regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion [here](). Please reach out to the instructor and/or to the [Ethics Reporting Hotline]() (1-866-384-4277) if you would like to report an incident. Please note that faculty are considered mandatory reporters for any grievance that falls within the scope of [Title IX](). Find below additional support resources available on campus for students.

Academic Integrity
Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit:
http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/
http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/

Any student suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Fall 2021 COVID-19 Special Arrangements
This course will be a "Remote" class which means that class meetings—which will be weekly presentations—will be exclusively online.

COVID 19 Resources & Policies that may affect you
Current Campus and CDC COVID-19 Guidelines
The *Center for Disease Control (*CDC) recently issued new interim guidance as of July 27, 2021, recommending the use of masks inside public buildings even by fully vaccinated individuals due to the new Delta variant. Georgia Tech encourages everyone to follow the CDC's recommendations to vaccinate and wear a mask or face covering in campus buildings. Face covering use will be in addition to and is not a substitute for social distancing (6 ft). Learn more about COVID-19 campus guidelines here: https://health.gatech.edu/tech-moving-forward

COVID-19 Testing on Campus
COVID-19 testing is available on campus at multiple locations for symptomatic and asymptomatic persons. You may participate in regular testing even if you have been fully vaccinated. Georgia Tech encourages those who have not been vaccinated to get tested weekly. Learn more about testing here:
https://health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/testing

COVID-19 Vaccines on Campus
COVID-19 vaccines are available on campus for all eligible students, faculty, and staff and their spouses, domestic partners, and dependent children ages 12 years and older (as of May 17, 2021). Georgia Tech is following the vaccine eligibility guidelines set by the Georgia Department of Public Health. Learn more about on campus vaccination here:
https://health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/vaccine

Campus Resources for Students
In your time at Georgia Tech, you may find yourself in need of support. Below you will find some resources to support you both as a student and as a person.

Academic support
- Center for Academic Success http://success.gatech.edu
  - 1-to-1 tutoring http://success.gatech.edu/1-1-tutoring
  - Peer-Led Undergraduate Study (PLUS) http://success.gatech.edu/tutoring/plus
  - Academic coaching http://success.gatech.edu/coaching
- Residence Life's Learning Assistance Program
https://housing.gatech.edu/learning-assistance-program
  - Drop-in tutoring for many 1000 level courses
- OMED: Educational Services (http://omed.gatech.edu/programs/academic-support)
  - Group study sessions and tutoring programs
- Communication Center (http://www.communicationcenter.gatech.edu)
  - Individualized help with writing and multimedia projects
- Academic advisors for your major
http://advising.gatech.edu/

Personal Support
Georgia Tech Resources
- The Office of the Dean of Students: http://studentlife.gatech.edu/content/services; **404-894-6367**; Smithgall Student Services Building 2nd floor
  - You also may request assistance at https://gatech-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report/index.php/pid383662?
- Counseling Center: http://counseling.gatech.edu; **404-894-2575**; Smithgall Student Services Building 2nd floor

- o Services include short-term individual counseling, group counseling, couples counseling, testing and assessment, referral services, and crisis intervention. Their website also includes links to state and national resources.
  - o *Students in crisis may walk in during business hours (8am-5pm, Monday through Friday) or contact the counselor on call after hours at* **404-894-2204**.
- Students' Temporary Assistance and Resources (STAR): http://studentlife.gatech.edu/content/need-help
  - o Can assist with interview clothing, food, and housing needs.
- Stamps Health Services: https://health.gatech.edu; **404-894-1420**
  - o Primary care, pharmacy, women's health, psychiatry, immunization and allergy, health promotion, and nutrition
- OMED: Educational Services: http://www.omed.gatech.edu
- Ombuds: https://provost.gatech.edu/conflict-resolution-ombuds
- **Women's Resource Center: 404-385-0230 http://www.womenscenter.gatech.edu**;
- **LGBTQIA Resources: 404-385-2679; http://lgbtqia.gatech.edu/**
- **Veteran's Resources: 404-385-2067;http://veterans.gatech.edu/**
- **Georgia Tech Police: 404-894-2500; https://police.gatech.edu/**

Campus Maps
- **General campus map site:** https://map.gatech.edu/
- **Gender neutral bathrooms:** https://lgbtqia.gatech.edu/content/gender-inclusive-restroom-map
- **COVID-19 testing sites:** https://map.gatech.edu/?id=82#!ce/50361?ct/50361,50938,51169
- **Campus community crime map:** https://www.communitycrimemap.com/?address=Georgia%20Institute%20of%20Technology%20North%20Ave%20NW%20Atlanta,%20GA%2030332