Announcements

• **Homework Collection:** The second homework collection of the semester will take place this Thursday, February 16. Please gather together all of your homework assignments from weeks 2 through 5 (note that there IS a writing assignment for this week, due on Thursday!), clearly label each week’s assignment, and circle all numerical answers. Then, staple all of the assignments together into one packet. This will be turned in at the START of class on Thursday. You will receive the solutions to the homeworks at the end of Thursday’s class. No late homework will be accepted.

• **First Midterm Exam:** The first midterm exam will be given in class on Thursday, February 23. More information about the exam will be given in class on Thursday February 16 and on Tuesday February 21.

Reading Assignment for Tuesday, February 21

This is the final reading assignment whose content will be included on your first midterm exam. All on-line material is accessible through the textbook web page at: http://ace.brookscole.com/voyages (see Weekly Handout #4 for details).

• **Voyages Through the Universe, Chapter 4, Sections 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6.**
  The first section, *Structure of the Atom* should cover fairly familiar territory for those of you who had high-school chemistry and/or physics. It presents the basic model of the atom that is useful to keep in mind when coming to an understanding of the properties of atoms. The second section, *Formation of Spectral Lines*, may be new to some of you. Pay particular attention of Figure 4.18: an understanding of this diagram is crucial to your understanding of the spectra of astronomical sources that we shall be looking at throughout the course. Finally, the section on *The Doppler Effect* gives a good overview of this important property of waves (and light). We shall find the Doppler effect to be a critical tool that astronomer’s use to deduce the velocities of astronomical objects.

• **Voyages Through the Universe, Chapter 6, Sections 6.1 and 6.2.**
  Skipping over Chapter 5 (on astronomical instruments), we take a quick inventory of the solar system: planets, moons, comets, and asteroids. As discussed at the start of the course, we will not spend a lot of time on the solar system, so soak it in while you can!

• **On-Line Material:** Chapter 3 – Look at the *Active Figure* called “Lunar Phases”, and the *Astronomy Exercise* “Phases of the Moon”. I found both of these to be quite good.

• **On-Line Material:** Chapter 4 – We covered this entire chapter, and all of the active figures and exercises are worth looking at. Take the *Post Test* to evaluate how well you have learned the material. The only question that I did not care for on this test was number 15, as it focuses on a rather minor historical detail.

Writing Assignment: Due Thursday, February 16

Please answer the following question completely and honestly.

1. Are you enjoying the course thus far? What aspects have you liked the most? Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Also, if you did not complete the second question from last week’s (Week 4) assignment (p. 106, *thought question #15*), please do it now!