Astronomy 101: How to Crash this Class
San Diego State University, Prof. Leonard

I am teaching two sections of Astronomy 101 during the Fall 2008 semester:

Lecture times and locations:
Section 5 (Schedule Number 02925): T/Th 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, Rm. PS-130 (Physical Sciences Building).
Section 7 (Schedule Number 02940): T/Th 2:00 - 3:15 PM, Rm. NE-060 (North Education Building).

Both sections are full: the maximum number of students (150 for Section 5 at 11:00 AM; 180 for Section 7 at 2:00 PM) who can take the course have signed up during pre-enrollment and, unfortunately, the fire code for the lecture rooms does not allow us to register additional students beyond these limits. However, if you want to be in either of these sections and were not able to pre-enroll, it may still be possible since some pre-enrolled students will likely drop. Here’s what you need to do:

1. Fill out and turn in the “Student Information” sheet. This was handed out during the first class and is available for download from the course web-site:
   http://sciences.sdsu.edu/~leonard/astro101

2. Send me an email (leonard@sciences.sdsu.edu) telling me which one of my sections you want to add.
   → Once I receive your email, and have gotten a filled-out “student information” sheet from you, you will be added to the “wait-list” for your preferred section of the course. Your position on the wait-list is completely determined by when I receive your email (I check at 12:30 PM every day), so it is to your advantage to send it to me quickly! Note that the last day to be added to the wait-list is Tuesday, September 9; after this, no new names will be added.

3. Check your email every day. At about 1:00 PM every day, I will send out an email to all students on the wait-list, that will show your position on the list. At any point during this process if you wish to be removed from the wait-list, simply send me an email and your name will be removed from the wait-list and you will no longer receive the daily emails.
   → While waiting for space to open up in the class, be sure to keep coming to class! Note that the first homework assignment (“Reading Quiz”) is due on Tuesday, September 16, which is abiyt one week before the end of the add/drop period. Since no assignment extensions will be given, you must complete this assignment on time, even if you are still on the wait-list.

4. Add the class. If your name rises to the top of the wait-list and a space opens up in the class, I will send you an add code. You then have 24 hours (i.e., by 1:00 PM the next day) to either add the class or to send me a request to extend the period of time you have to use the add code (all reasonable requests will be granted). If you do not add the class within 24 hours and I don’t otherwise hear from you, your add code will be given to the next student on the list. Once another student successfully adds the class with the add code originally given to you, your name will be dropped from the wait-list, so please please please check your email EVERY DAY during the add/drop period!
   → Past history has shown that anywhere from ~ 5 → 20 students will typically drop the course by the end of the drop/add period (6 PM Monday, September 22).

1 Note that other sections of Astronomy 101 may have immediate space available!
2 Please note that I determine whether space is available in the course based on the Roster that is available to me via the Web Portal, not the Class Schedule page that is publicly available on the Web, since the Portal has the most accurate and recent information.