

AST 542, Observational Seminar

High Redshift Galaxies

The course home page is

<http://www.astro.princeton.edu/~jgreene/AST542/>.

- Talks will last 45 minutes, including questions. I have listed a whole bunch of papers for each talk – do not feel like you need to cover all of these in detail, I just want to get you started. You probably want to focus on a couple of papers, but read more than I have listed here.
- In general, the talks should focus on observations.
- Students will discuss the subject matter of their talks and the relevant references with me well in advance (> 1 week) of their presentation. I recommend we talk on Wed. before class.
- Students will discuss an outline of their talks with me by the Monday preceding their talks.
- Each student will meet with me privately, ideally right after the talk, to discuss the talk.
- Students will announce their talks to all@astro with a talk title and brief abstract on Wednesday afternoon.
- Students will send me their talks in PDF afterwards for posting on the course website.
- Students will give feedback to their peers in the form of written comments.
- The audience is encouraged to ask questions during and after the talks.
- Attendance at all talks is mandatory.

Giving Talks

- Talks should be in powerpoint, keynote, or PDF.
- Practice the talk beforehand, either to yourself or to your friends.
- Do not go over your allotted time. Remember to leave plenty of time for questions. Cut your talk short if you need to do so!
- Keep the talk focussed; summarize the basic points both at the beginning and the end of the talk.
- Put your material in context; make sure the big picture and relevant background are clear before going into details.
- Make your slides clear and uncluttered.
- Keep the number of sentences, and number of ideas, per slide, small.
- Do not use powerpoint special effects unless they *directly* enhance your topic.
- Remember to speak slowly, clearly, and loudly; do not mumble. Look out to the audience; speak to the back row.
- Do not show graphs or images you do not intend to explain.
- Make sure to properly attribute all results you show; give full references.
- Avoid detailed mathematical derivations unless absolutely necessary.
- Make sure that the axes of all plots are labelled clearly, and are visible to the audience.
- Make sure figures are high resolution.
- Use a pointer, and point at the screen.
- Feel free to use the blackboard if appropriate.