

Kentucky Class Notes

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**AST 192 Troland
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Test 1**

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Structure of the Universe

Reviewed Syllabus

- Substitute Professor reviewed the syllabus.

Structure of the Universe

- A Large Scale of the Universe is called an astronomical system and a Small Scale of the Universe is called a microscopic system.
- The most distant planet in the solar system is Neptune. Scientist determined Pluto is not a planet.
- The second closest star to the Sun is **PROXIMA CENTAURI** at about 4.3 billion light years away from Neptune.
- The Solar system is **4.6 billion years old** and the Universe is about **13.6 billion years old**.
- Some objects that we can find in the solar system are the sun, planets, moons, satellites, asteroids and comets.
- The sun is the most massive member of the solar system; the only star in the solar system.

A. Large Scale

1. Solar System
2. Milky Way Galaxy
3. Local Group
4. Local Supercluster
5. Universe at Large

1. The Solar System

- The Solar System consists of a sun, 8 planets, numerous satellites, moons, and various other asteroids and comets.
- The Sun is a giant glowing globe of gas that contains all but 1/500th of all the matter within the solar system.
- The sun is larger 100 times the diameter than the earth and also more massive than the earth by 300,000 times.
- Light travels at the speed of 1 foot every billionth of a second; this would mean that light could travel around the earth 7 times in ONE second.