I. Course Title
   • Planetarium Operations

II. Course Prefix/Number
   • Phys 320

III. Credit Hours
   • 2

IV. Prerequisites
   • Approval of the instructor

V. Catalog Description
   • Techniques in the preparation and presentation of planetarium shows at the Zachëis Planetarium/Observatory.

VI. Curricular Relationships
   • This course is “stand-alone” course. It serves students interested in astronomy that want to further their skills in astronomy, music, art, elementary education and/or physics. Many of the activities will be designed to accommodate the students’ interest. All students should have an interest in working with young audiences.
   • This course is particularly appropriate for students with an interest in elementary or secondary science education.

VII. Student Learning Outcomes
   • The students will be able to operate the projector bank and star projector.
   • To familiarize the student with the operation and maintenance of telescopes.
   • Students will be able to make public presentations.
   • Students will develop, create and design hands-on science activities or planetarium shows including the incorporation of artwork and music, depending upon their interest.

VIII. Content Outline
   • This will vary depending on the interests of the individual student. The primary objective will be working with public school children within the planetarium setting. All students are expected to perform planetarium and telescope maintenance in addition to their individual projects.
IX. Course Procedures/Policies/Grading Scale
   Each student will design their own program of activities with input and advise from the Planetarium Director. Included within the design are evaluation points. Additionally, each student is expected: to conduct planetarium shows and/or science activities with public school children; perform maintenance work necessary to keep the planetarium functional.

X. Required/Recommended Readings
   • None

XI. Issues Unique to this Course
   • The schedule for the course is non-traditional and is dictated by the schedule of planetarium shows, the schedules of all students participating in the course, and the project each student works on. The course is experiential in nature and is similar to an internship in other disciplines.

XII. Additional Departmental Issues
   • none