

Approaches to Teaching Astronomy and Astrobiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham

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In this talk, I will outline the approaches and techniques used in introducing the important concepts of Astronomy and Astrobiology to non-science majors at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Methods of teaching astronomy laboratory courses (a.k.a. “practicals”) to a diverse audience in an urban location will also be discussed. I will also describe the ways in which observations and computer simulations of observations can be used to enhance laboratory curricula.