# Astronomy Curriculum Guide

## I. Course Description

This course is an overview of the field of astronomy including an analysis of the top theories regarding the origin, age, and make-up of the universe. The solar system, stars and galaxies, cosmic catastrophes, the history of space exploration, and the existence of UFO will be addressed as well. Lab work will include mastering the use of a telescope, the building of a Dobsonian telescope, and regular observation of the night sky with emphasis on keeping a scientifically significant journal.

## II. Course Objectives

A. Journal notes from readings and video lectures in student notebook
B. Define new vocabulary words as encountered in readings
C. Master the use of a telescope
D. Assist in the building of a Dobsonian telescope
E. Describe the mechanics of a telescope and why it works
F. Record observations in a detailed scientific "Night Sky" journal

## III. Course Outline

A. First Quarter
1. What is Astronomy?
2. How Big is the Universe?
3. The Origin of the Universe

B. Second Quarter
1. Watching the Sky
2. Why Did God Create the Heavenly Bodies?
3. Space Exploration

C. Third Quarter
1. Tour of the Solar System
2. The Sun and Moon
3. Stars and Galaxies

D. Fourth Quarter
1. Cosmic Catastrophes
2. Catastrophes in the Solar System
3. Are There Other Planets in Other Solar Systems?

## IV. Instructional Materials

*The Astronomy Book— with Study Guide and Workbook*, Dr. Jonathan Henry, Answers In Genesis, 2005

*Starlight and Time — Video,* Russel Humphreys, Ph.D. Answers in Genesis, 2005

*Astronomy and the Bible: The Heavens Declare the Glory of God — Video and Study Guide*, Mike Riddle, Answers in Genesis

*Creation Astronomy: Viewing the Universe Through Biblical Glasses — Video*, Dr. Jason Lisle, Answers In Genesis

*Aliens, UFOs and the Bible: Are We Alone in the Universe? — Videom*, Gary Bates, Answers in Genesis

*Hubble, Bubble, Big Bang Trouble*, Dr. John Hartnett, Answers in Genesis John A. Garraty, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, Inc., 1989.

**V. Teaching Methods**

A. Group Text Study
B. Video Lectures
C. Study Workbook Assignments
D. Night Sky Observation Journal

**VI. Evaluation**

**A. Components**

1. Completion of Reading
2. Video Lecture Notes
3. Completion of Study Workbook assignments
4. Night Sky Observation Journal
5. Telescope Skills

**B. Grading Scale**

1. 100—90 %=A
2. 89—80%=B
3. 79—70%=C
4. 69—60%=D
5. Lower than 59 % = F