

Astronomy 270A -- Outreach in Astronomy

Planetarium Equipment Use Test

Name _____ Date _____ Due Date 05/07/09

Evaluator Name(s) _____

Scoring Instructions: Do the following in 3 stages: Part A, evaluate, Part B, evaluate, Part C, evaluate, bonus task. Work with your fellow students to perfect your knowledge, doing steps more than once until you are confident of your expertise. **No points allowed if your original "score" lies in the shaded columns.** If you don't get it right or don't understand it the first time, then try the step over again. Any scores in the "clear" columns (stupendous to "good enough") get points, as indicated on the top line.

<<Stupendous ----- Dismal>>

	Points	1	1/2	1/4			
1. Entering Steps: Turn on lights, power-up planetarium	0						
2. System Check: Precession dial, meridian, zenith cross work							
3. System Check: Year, date, equatorial/ecliptic circles							
4. System Check: Latitude setting; NCP arrow							
A 5. System Check: Northern & southern hemisphere stars							
6. System Check: Sun, Moon, planets, cardinal points							
7. System Check: sunrise glow, sunset glow							
8. System Check: latitude, annual, diurnal motion, precession dial							
9. Turn off or turn down lights	0						
10. Check doors; close curtains	0						
11. Work with diurnal motion, go through 1 complete day; explain							
12. Work with annual motion, move Sun forward 1 month; explain							
13. Work with annual motion, observe Moon through all phases							
14. Using latitude control, go to the North Pole; explain motion of stars*							
B 15. Using latitude control, go to equator; explain motion of stars*							
16. Return to Seattle's Latitude; explain motion of stars*							
17. Explain the units seen on the celestial equator							
18. Explain the units seen on the ecliptic							
19. Explain what the meridian is and what the units are							
20. Explain how to find the North Star							
21. Return to today's date; Sun on western horizon; latitude +48°							
C 22. Power down all knobs; check no "blinking," turn off planetarium							
23. Turn on room lights							
BONUS: Use the diurnal control to put the Sun on the meridian. Work with the diurnal and annual controls to KEEP the Sun on the meridian.	2						
TOTAL POINTS:							/ 20 possible

*Using terms like circumpolar and "rise and set"

****What does not work: moonglow, daylight, constellations (unless specially set up); don't bother with altitude and azimuth knobs found in upper RHS of the console.