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Dear Colleagues,

EarthSci/Astro 5205, Planetary Science will enhance the Astrophysics program through broadening opportunities for students to expand their Astrophysics degree into the allied field of planetary science. The design of the course will be to leverage the skillsets of Astrophysics and Earth Science students to engage in cross-disciplinary teams exploring modern planetary science. This course will also engage students coming from other disciplines including Physics and Aeronautical Engineering, who seek opportunities in the field.

This course will be a cornerstone of the soon-to-be proposed Planetary Science Certificate, which we expect to draw students into both Astrophysics and the Geophysics subprogram of Earth Sciences. It also helps to identify for students the many curricular pathways available at Ohio State to pursue interests in space exploration. Post-graduation opportunities include graduate programs in planetary science and careers in the government sector (e.g., NASA) or the the growing space industry sector.

The course will be team taught in alternate spring semesters on a continuing basis. The initial offering will be in Spring 2021, team taught by Wendy Panero (Earth Sciences) and Ji Wang (Astronomy).

Sincerely,

David H. Weinberg  
Distinguished University Professor and Chair of Astronomy