"It is important that students bring a certain ragamuffin, barefoot, irreverence to their studies; they are not here to worship what is known, but to question it." Jacob Chanowski

http://sdbv.missouristate.edu/mreed/CLASS/A115

### Question #1

Would you like the class curved (fixed number of A grades, B grades, etc.), or would you like percentage grading (90%) + is an A, 80-90% is a B, etc.)? **Time to determine!** A) Curved B) Percent (90, 80, 70, etc)

### Question #2

Would you like +/- grading? (There are no A+ or D- scores.) A) Yes, +/- grading B) No, +/- grading

## The easy questions

## How big is the Earth? How far away are the Sun and Moon?

## What would you like to learn about?

## A picture of our solar system.

#### Order by size: Earth, Moon, Sun, Stars, Comets, Planets



## A picture of our solar system.

#### Order by size: Earth, Moon, Sun, Stars, Comets, Planets

How could you determine these sizes?



# What is at the center of our solar system?



# We begin by examining what we know about the Earth and the Moon

## Lunar Orbit.

We see a Full Moon once every 29.5 days.
But the Moon actually goes around the Earth once every 27.3 days!

Why are these numbers different?

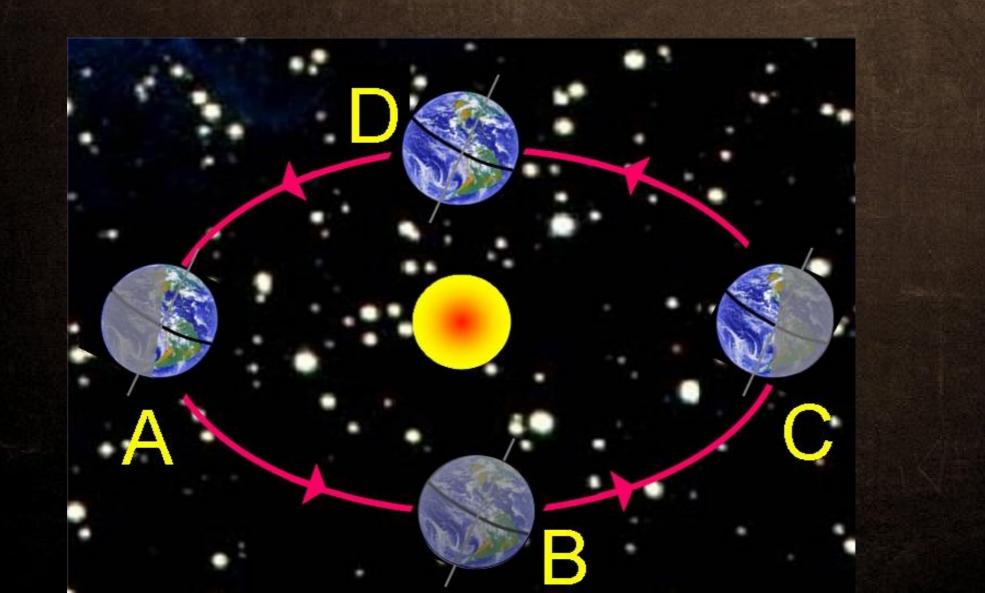
#### **Definition: Sidereal vs Solar**

Sidereal: One complete revolution according to the stars.

Solar: One complete revolution according to the Sun.

This will be very funky for some planets!

The Earth only goes around 1 star, our Sun. Other stars are <u>much</u> farther away.



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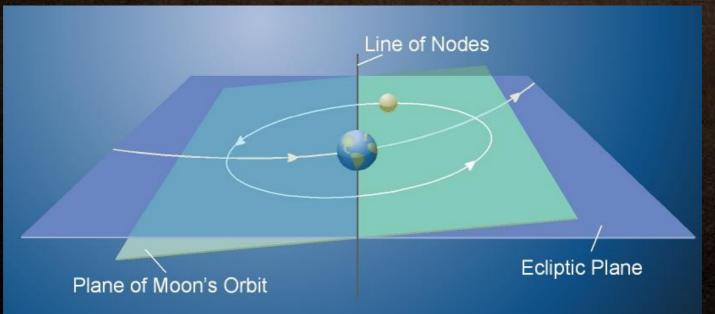
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sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse

## why don't solar and lunar eclipses happen once every lunar orbit?

Because the Moon's orbit is tipped compared to the Earth's. An eclipse only happens if a New or Full Moon occurs when the Moon is on the Earth's orbital plane (called the ecliptic).



## Baseline: The Earth and Moon

