"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 Chánowski
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 much farther away.

 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: <br> The Earth and Moon

