Astronomy 45
Introduction to Astrophysics

An introduction to the concepts and methods of astrophysics, including a brief survey of astronomical objects, a discussion of astronomical measurements and units, and a systematic introduction to the astrophysical nature of radiation, orbital dynamics, tidal interactions, stellar structure, and many-body dynamics.

Instructor:	Bill Press, Observatory P-235 495-4908 Office Hours: call any time to arrange Email: wpress@cfa.harvard.edu
Teaching Fellow:	Ann Esin, Observatory P-201 496-0742 Office hours: call any time Email: aesin@cfa.harvard.edu
Lectures:	Science Center 109, MWF 10:00–11:00
Section:	Ann Esin will hold a one-hour section each week, day to be arranged.
Problem Sets:	Approximately every other week.
Reading Period Assignment:	There will be a short paper, essentially to choose a topic not presented in class (e.g. from one of the recommended reading texts) and write up 5 pages or so of coherent "lecture notes" in the same style as those handed out in class. No lectures during reading period.
Midterm Exam:	There will be a 1 hour in-class exam on Wednesday, March 12.
Final Exam:	There will be a 3 hour exam at the usual time.
Textbooks:	The main "text" is in the form of lecture notes that are available on the course Web page for you to print out. Two good supplementary texts (though not covering exactly the material of this course) are available at the Coop: Ostlie, D.A. and Carroll, B.W., *An Introduction to Modern Stellar Astrophysics* Shu, F.H. *The Physical Universe*
Course Web Page:	http://nr.harvard.edu/ay45.html Right now this has the lecture notes, *last* year's sets, and a chat area where your questions can be speedily answered (maybe). Later, it will get *this* year's sets (and solutions).