

New course!

280089 VO+SE MA-ERD-W-1.1 Late Accretion in the Solar System (PI) (2021S)

Tuesdays 13:30 - 15:00 Digital (Beginning: March 16, 2021)

Thursdays 15:00 - 16:30 Digital

Prof. Dr. Stephen Mojzsis (Ida Pfeiffer Visiting Professor at University of Vienna)
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Aims, contents and method of the course: The dynamical basis of the bombardment phenomenon in the context of planet formation and mechanisms such as giant planet migration. How do bombardments modulate the biosphere from the earliest times of the solar system? Are such extreme events common (or not) to extrasolar systems?

The timescale for late accretion to the terrestrial planets is poorly known but an active area of study, especially here in Vienna. We will explore the history of thought on the bombardment of the early solar system, and investigate different ideas about the thermal events in the first billion or so years as recorded in planetary materials. Part of the course will ask you to consider whether any of the solid planetary bodies of our solar system could have experienced wholesale melting by bombardment.