

Lab 2 -Star Clusters

Star Clusters come in 2 types, open and globular. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_cluster
The clusters we'll photograph lie hundreds to thousands of light years away, within our Milky Way galaxy.

Open star clusters are younger, more numerous, and are found in the galaxy's spiral arms. They contain hundreds, sometimes thousands of stars formed close together, from the same molecular cloud. More than 1,100 open clusters have been discovered in the Milky Way. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_cluster

Globular (spherical) star clusters contain up to hundreds of thousands of gravitationally bound stars packed tightly together, resembling a stellar snowball. Globulars are found in the halo of the galaxy, and are much older than open clusters. Roughly 200 globular star clusters are known in the Milky Way, and globular clusters are common in other galaxies. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Globular_cluster

Photograph 2-3 star clusters, either open or globular, during semester as possible. Note the type, location, angular size, number of stars, magnitude, distance, and other details learned from your research and imaging.