

3 $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes of Totality and the Southern Cross

Neal Sumerlin
Lynchburg College

October 09, 2009

Abstract: What is it like to stand in the shadow of the moon as it moves across the face of the sun? We'll describe how eclipses occur, and what the special circumstances are that make a total solar eclipse such a rare and awe-inspiring spectacle. Since this eclipse was observed from the southern hemisphere, we'll also describe some special sights visible only from that global location. Some brief explanation of the green flash (no, that's not the name of a superhero) and of the Lynchburg College Belk Observatory will round out the talk.