Physics 408, Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics

Instructor: Roland E. Allen

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Office hours: Wednesday 3-4 p.m., Thursday 3-4 p.m., Friday 3-4 p.m.; or by appointment.

Textbook: Thermal Physics by Ralph Baierlein. You may want to bring your copy of the textbook to class for easier note-taking.

Evaluation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 “midterm” exams</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam (comprehensive)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Homework is due at the beginning of class each Monday.

Homework presentations are also each Monday, of course. Homework late by < 48 hours, 1/2 credit. Homework late by > 48 hours, no credit.

Exams: Thursday, September 22; Thursday, October 13; Thursday, November 10.

The final exam will be at the time specified by the university at http://registrar.tamu.edu/General/FinalSchedule.aspx, which is Monday, December 12, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

There is the possibility of getting extra credit if you arrange for this (1) before any other volunteer for a given homework problem, to present that problem in class, or (2) by Friday Nov. 18 for a 10-minute talk at the end of the semester.

The maximum extra credit for presenting the solution of a homework problem to the class is equal to the credit for doing two homework problems; the time allocated for a presentation is 5 minutes maximum (plus a question and answer period not to exceed 3 minutes). Please arrive early and put your problem on the board before class.

If you give a 10-minute talk, the maximum credit is equivalent to an extra homework set.