

Physics 317, Thermodynamics

Instructor: Sarah Patch,
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Lectures: 9 am MWF in Phys 353
Office Hours: Mon 10 am - 1, Tues noon-2 pm; Fri 2-3 pm (shared with Phys 501)

Prerequisites: Phys 210, consent instructor. Good math skills, esp. differentials.

REQUIRED “Thermal Physics,” by Ralph Baierlein
TEXT: Cambridge University Press (1999), **ISBN-10:** 0521658381, **ISBN-13:** 978-0521658386

Course

Description: “0th,” 1st, 2nd and 3rd laws of thermodynamics, their consequences & applications. Time permitting, kinetic theory of gases and statistical thermodynamics will be introduced.

Grading: Homework 35%, Midterm 25%, Final 40%

Exams: One in-class midterm, Fri Oct 14.
Final exam at 10 am Fri Dec 16.

Ballpark time requirements:

classroom: 41 lectures x 50 min/lecture	34	hours
taking exams: 50 min (midterm) + 120 min (final)	3	hours
preparation and study: 3 hours /week reading text <i>before class</i> * 14 weeks	42	hours
completing assignments: 6-12 hours/HWK x 8-12 HWKs	48-144	hours
discussions, office hours:	0-10	hours
<i>total</i>	<hr/> 127—233 hours	

Pointers

- HWK will typically be due on Wednesdays & solution sets will be available soon thereafter.
- Work together on homework – it is better for everyone. Those who already know reinforce their understanding by explaining.
- Exams, however, are to be completed independently. Cheating on exams is unacceptable & I would recommend expulsion to the investigating officer.
- Failure to complete an exam due to an excused absence will result in the lower of your other grade(s) (hwk, other exam) being substituted for the missed exam. Missing an exam without an excused absence will result in a grade of 0.

You will “lose points” for answering a cell phone in class.