

PHYS 4315: Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics
Fall 2014

Instructor: Dr. Raymond Atta-Fynn

Office Number: Science Hall, Room 120 B

Office Telephone Number: 817-272-2266

Email Address: attafynn@uta.edu

Faculty Profile: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/raymond-atta-fynn>

Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 11:00-1:30 PM or any time you can find me at the office.

Section Information: 001

Time and Place of Class Meetings: TuTh 11:00 AM -12:20 PM, Room 125, Science Hall

Description of Course Content: Topics in classical thermodynamics include the laws of thermodynamics, Gibbs' and Helmholtz's free energies, the Maxwell relations, heat capacities, entropy change calculations, phase and chemical changes. Statistical mechanics centers on the partition function and its applications, such as the entropy of an ideal gas, the Maxwell velocity distribution, the heat capacity of a solid, photon statistics, and blackbody radiation. Fermi-Dirac and Bose-Einstein statistics.
Prerequisite: PHYS 3313 and MATH 2326 or permission of the instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Concise understanding of thermodynamic state variables and statistical mechanics ensembles.
2. Applicability of statistical thermodynamics to model and predict equilibrium properties of materials.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

The required textbook is *Classical and Statistical Thermodynamics*, 1st edition, by Ashley H. Carter (Prentice Hall).

Supplemental Textbooks:

- (1) *Concepts in Thermal Physics*, Stephen J. Blundell and Katherine M. Blundell, (Oxford University Press).
- (2) *Thermodynamics, Kinetic Theory, and Statistical Thermodynamics*, 3rd edition, by F. W. Sears and G. L. Salinger (Addison-Wesley).
- (3) *Thermodynamics and an Introduction to Thermostatistics*, 2nd edition, by Herbert B. Callen (Wiley).
- (4) *Fundamentals of statistical and thermal physics*, 1st edition, by Federick Reif (McGraw-Hill, New York NY; reprinted by Waveland Press).
- (5) *Statistical Mechanics*, 2nd Edition, by Raj K. Pathria, (Elsevier).

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

Homework problems will be assigned after the completion of each chapter. There will two midterm exams and a final exam. All

Attendance: Students are expected to attend classes regularly.

Grading:

| Activity | Percentage |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Homework | 25% |
| Exam 1 | 20% |
| Exam 2 | 20% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
| Classroom Exercises & Quizzes | 5% |
| Total | 100% |

Scale (tentative)*

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| 90-100 | A |
| 80-89 | B |
| 70-79 | C |
| 50-69 | D |
| 0-49 | F |

Exam dates (tentative)

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| Exam 1 | Thursday, September 18 |
| Exam 2 | Thursday, October 23 |
| Final Exam | Tuesday, December 9, 11:00 AM -1:30 PM |

Other important dates

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| Labor Day Holiday | Monday, September 1 |
| Census date | Monday, September 8 |
| Last day to drop classes; submit requests to advisor prior to 4:00pm | Wednesday, October 29 |
| Thanksgiving Holidays | Thursday, Friday November 27-28 |
| Last day of class | Tuesday, December 2 |

Make-up Exams: If you miss a test without an official documented reason, a make-up may be taken if you inform me the day prior to the test. The make-up test must be taken within one week after the test date.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official

documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

Lab Safety Training:

Students registered for this course must complete all required lab safety training prior to entering the lab and undertaking any activities. Once completed, Lab Safety Training is valid for the remainder of the same academic year (i.e., through the following August) and must be completed anew in subsequent years. There are no exceptions to this University policy. Failure to complete the required training will preclude participation in any lab activities, including those for which a grade is assigned.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition,

no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located close to the classroom. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Course Schedule

1. The Nature of Thermodynamics.
2. Equations of State.
3. The First Law of Thermodynamics.
4. Applications of the First Law.
5. Consequences of the First Law.
6. The Second Law of Thermodynamics.
7. Applications of the Second Law.
8. Thermodynamic Potentials.
9. The Chemical Potential and Open Systems.
10. The Third Law of Thermodynamics.
11. The Kinetic Theory of Gases.
12. Statistical Thermodynamics.
13. Classical and Quantum Statistics.
14. The Classical Statistical Treatment of an Ideal Gas.
15. The Heat Capacity of a Diatomic Gas.
16. The Heat Capacity of a Solid.
17. The Thermodynamics of Magnetism.
18. Bose-Einstein Gases.
19. Fermi-Dirac Gases.
20. Information Theory.

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| <p>Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911. For non-emergencies, contact the UTA PD at 817-272-3381.</p> |
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