

**MAT 501 Thermodynamics**  
**Fall 2022**

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**Associates:**            TBA  
**Course Data:**        Hours:            Mon 14.40-15.30/Tue 14.40-16.30  
                              Office hours:        TBA

**Textbooks:**

**Callen, H.B.**, *Thermodynamics and an Introduction to Thermostatistics*, Wiley, 2nd Ed., 1985. [QC311 .C35 1985](#).  
**Fermi, E.**, *Thermodynamics*, Dover, 1956. [QC311 .F47 2010](#),

**References:**

**Dill, K.A., Bromberg, S., and Stigter, D.**, *Molecular Driving Forces*, Statistical Thermodynamics in Biology. Garland Science, 2nd Ed., 2011. [QC311.5 .D55 2011](#).  
**Reif, F.**, *Fundamentals of statistical and thermal physics*. McGraw-Hill, 1965. [QC175 .R44 1965](#).

**Weeks Commencing/Topics:**

**Oct 3, 10**            Part I  
Thermodynamic systems  
Piston-gas as a system  
    Idealizations and assumptions about the piston, the gas, and the environment  
Gases  
    Ideal/perfect – what are the assumptions?  
    Laws – observations/experiments  
    Maxwell's "kinetic" theory  
Work done

**Oct 17, 24**        Part II  
Internal energy  
    Isolated systems  
Heat  
    Interactions with the environment – Isothermal, adiabatic, and all else  
The first law  
    Gases  
    Expansions – what variables are fixed? Reversibility for each step or whole process?  
The maximum work theorem

**Oct 31, Nov 7**    Part III  
The second law  
Cycles  
    Carnot – why Carnot? Are there other cycles? A general form of cycles  
    Inverted heat engines: Refrigerators and pumps  
Entropy  
The fundamental equation – and its consequences

**Nov 14-15**        Recapitulation and **Exam I**

**Nov 21, 28** Part IV  
Thermodynamic potentials  
Helmholtz and Gibbs free energy  
Legendre transformations  
The Maxwell relations  
Thermodynamic description of mixtures

**Dec 5, 12** Part V  
Stability of Thermodynamic Systems  
Explain, why  
Addition of heat to a stable system must increase its temperature  
Isothermal expansion of a stable system must decrease its pressure  
Le Châtelier's principle and Braun's amendment  
Phase diagrams  
Stabilities of phases  
Phase boundaries and typical phase diagrams

**Dec 19** Part VI  
Phase transitions  
First-order phase transitions in single component systems  
The discontinuity (of the volume – the lever rule; in the entropy – latent heat)  
Phase loci – The Clapeyron equation  
First order transitions in multicomponent simple systems – Gibbs' phase rule

**Dec 26-27** Recapitulation and **Exam II**

**Jan 2**  
Phase diagrams for binary systems  
Entropy revisited  
The Nernst postulate and the Third Law  
Recapitulation and the **Final prep**

**Class Policies**  
Course will be in physical mode (finally)!

**Grading**

Exam I and II: 30% each, total is for 60% of the final grade

Final exam: 40% of the final grade; covers all the material