School of Physical and Chemical Sciences



General Course Information

PHYS310 and PHYS440 - 2024 Thermal, Statistical and Particle Physics

0.125 EFTS 15 Points First Semester

Course Coordinator

Prof. Roger Reeves (Statistical Physics) Room 623 von Haast Building roger.reeves@canterbury.ac.nz

Lecturers

Prof David Frame (Thermal Physics) Room 724 von Haast Building david.frame@canterbury.ac.nz

Dr Chris Gordon (Particle Physics) Room 617 von Haast Building chris.gordon@canterbury.ac.nz

Description

This course provides an introduction to the study of the physical properties of matter. It integrates the study of thermal properties of matter in bulk (thermodynamics) with the molecular/atomic approach (statistical physics). The particle physics is further extended to subatomic scales with an introduction to the phenomenology of nuclear structure, radiation processes and the standard model of particle interactions.





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Assessment

There is NO FINAL EXAM for PHYS310/440

The THREE sections of PHYS310/440 will be assessed independently in the form of 60 minute tests and homework with equal proportion between the 3 sections of the course.

Tests will be held OUTSIDE of lecture/tutorial times and the DRAFT timetable has them indicated below.

25% HW Assignments.

75% Three independent tests

- 1. Thermodynamics Test: Week 6
- 2. Statistical Mechanics Test: Week 10
- 3. Nuclear and Particle Physics Test, Semerster 1 Examination Period
- PHYS440 students will have extra assessment questions.

If you are **absent** from the test or exam, or if you consider that your performance in the test or exam was impaired, then you can apply for **Special Consideration**. Action MUST be taken within 5 days of the assessment.

The link with details can be found at http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/exams/special-consideration.shtml

Textbook

Your textbook from PHYS200, Serway, R A; Moses, C J; Moyer, C A. Modern physics. 3rd ed. will be a very good reference for many of the topics in PHYS310. However, you should not limit yourself to the discussion from just one author. Some other books that may be useful are:

Thermal and Statistical Mechanics

Thermal Physics (1980)	Kittel
Thermal Physics (1991)	Sprackling
Thermal physics: an introduction to thermodynamics, statistical	Riedi, P. C
mechanics, and kinetic theory (1988)	
Thermodynamics: principles and applications (1971)	Andrews, Frank C
Introductory Statistical Mechanics (1996)	Bowley and Sanchez
An Introduction to Statistical Thermodynamics (1995)	Gasser
Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics	Greiner et al
Thermodynamics, kinetic theory, and statistical thermodynamics: (1975).	Sears and Salinger.

Particle Physics

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Nuclear and Particle Physics (1991)	Williams
Particle physics 1997.	Martin and Shaw
Nuclear and particle physics (1975)	Frauenfelder, Hans,
Nuclear and particle physics source book (1988).	Parker
Nuclear and radiochemistry: fundamentals and applications (1997)	Karl Heinrich Lieser.

Notes

Some course material will be available on the Learn system: http://learn.canterbury.ac.nz/

Class Representative

- As part of the feedback system on the course a Class Representative will be appointed. This person (or persons) will be a volunteer selected during the first few lectures.
- The Class Rep acts as an intermediary between the class as a whole and our department so that any problems of an organizational type, level of difficulty, etc. nature can be brought to our attention.
- The Class Rep(s) will be members of the Departments Staff-Student Liaison Committee. This committee meets twice during the semester (refreshments supplied) where the reps report on their class and have an opportunity meet other reps and lecturers.

Contact Details

- ❖ If you have a problem with any part of the course there are several people who are available for advice.
 - If the problem is with your understanding of the lecture or homework material then you should approach the Lecturer.
 - The Class Representative who acts as a feedback channel from the class to the Department.
 - If you have a grievance with some aspect of the course then in the first instance you should discuss
 the problem with the Lecturer. Failing a satisfactory resolution at this stage your next academic
 contacts are:
 - 300 level supervisor, Prof. David Wiltshire
 - Head of the School, Prof. Rudi Marquez

Further steps involve the University grievance procedures. The UCSA is able to help here

GENERAL INFORMATION

The School has general policies that apply to all courses regarding such matters as Dishonest Practice, Allowed types of calculators, Marks and Grades boundaries, Late Work, Academic Liaison, Assistance for Students with Disabilities, Reconsideration of Grades, Special Consideration Applications, etc. This information is available on the *Physics & Astronomy Undergraduate Courses* section of the Learn site.

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PHYS310 2024			Mon	Wed	Fri
	Monday	Lecture	11AM	10AM	11AM
Terms 1 & 2	Date	Week	ER465	E16	ER465
	12-Feb				
	19-Feb	1	ThermoLec	ThermoLec	ThermoTut
PHYS310 Thermal,	26-Feb	2	ThermoLec	ThermoLec	ThermoTut
Statistical and	4-Mar	3	ThermoLec	ThermoLec	ThermoTut
Nuclear Physics	11-Mar	4	ThermoLec	ThermoLec	ThermoTut
	18-Mar	5	StatMechLec	StatMechLec	SMTut
	25-Mar	6	StatMechLec	StatMechLec	Easter
	1-Apr				
	8-Apr				
	15-Apr				
	22-Apr	7	StatMechLec	StatMechLec	SMTut
	29-Apr	8	StatMechLec	StatMechLec	SMTut
	6-May	9	NucLec	NucLec	NucTut
	13-May	10	NucLec	NucLec	NucTut
	20-May	11	NucLec	NucLec	NucTut
	27-May	12	NucLec	NucLec	NucTut
	3-Jun				
	10-Jun				
	17-Jun				