Chemistry 110A
Introduction to Thermodynamics
Fall 2019

INSTRUCTOR: Professor William M. Gelbart, 3047 Young Hall, gelbart@chem.ucla.edu

TEACHING ASSISTANTS (TAs):
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LEARNING ASSISTANT (LA): Clarissa Pham (clarissaapham@gmail.com)

CLASS MEETINGS: 9-9:50 am, Young Hall 2200

  Note that all 5 days of the week should be reserved by you for this class.

Lectures will almost always be held on M, W, and F, a discussion section on T or Th, and a tutorial session on the other day, all in Young Hall 2200. Because of my travel commitments some weeks will involve a different 3 days of lecture (and therefore of TA-led discussion section), with this schedule being announced in the 1st week.

HOLIDAYS:
Monday November 11 (Veterans Day) and Thursday/Friday November 28/29 (Thanksgiving)

TEXTBOOK:

  Note that the 3rd edition is also OK to use, instead of the 4th.
We will cover the first 9 chapters of the book, about one chapter a week.

OFFICE HOURS FOR THE INSTRUCTOR AND TAs WILL BE POSTED ON THE COURSE WEBSITE IN THE 1ST WEEK AND, SIMILARLY, THE HOURS FOR LA-LED PROBLEM-SOLVING SESSIONS WILL ALSO BE POSTED THEN – YOU WILL RECEIVE A GOOGLE POLL IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO, ASKING EACH OF YOU TO INDICATE PREFERRED HOURS....

REQUIREMENTS, AND GRADING POLICIES:
  Homework problems (10% of grade): Problems will be assigned and handed in each Monday, and graded on a +/-*/- basis. Brief solutions will be posted, but you are strongly encouraged to discuss the problems directly with us in our office hours, discussion sections, and problem-solving sessions.
  Two “midterm”/“hour” exams (totaling 45% of grade): tentatively scheduled for Oct 29 and Nov 19.
  Final exam (45% of grade): Friday Dec 13, 11:30am-2:30pm.

Note that no make-up exams will be given. If you miss an hour-test with an excused absence you will be assigned a grade for it based on your performance on the other hour-test and the final exam; you cannot complete the course without taking/passing the final.

GENERAL INFORMATION:
  • Please check daily the course ccle website, for updates on everything, including lecture notes (which will be posted before every lecture), problem sets, problem solutions, supplementary materials, ...
  • You will have 8 office hours and 2 problem-solving sessions to choose from each week, and we strongly encourage you to come to as many of them as you can.
  • Please read the lecture notes and accompanying textbook material in advance of the lectures, so that you can learn more from the lectures and interrupt them with questions.
  • Even though the problem sets make up only 10% of the grade, they are the most important way (along with office-hours, problem-solving sessions, and discussion sections) in which you will be learning the course material. Please spend as much time on them as you can – working on your own, with your classmates, and with us.....