

## Physics 4142: Statistical Mechanics

Fall 2010

**Professor** First (first@gatech.edu)

- *Office:* N018 Howey *Lab:* S03/S06 Howey
- *Office Hours:* 4:00-5:00pm Monday & Thursday, or by appointment

**Grader:** Adam Perkins (adam.perkins@gatech.edu)

- *Lab/Office:* W303 Howey
- *Office Hours:* 1:00-3:00pm Wednesday

**Text:** *Thermal Physics, 2nd Edition* (Kittel & Kroemer)

### Other useful books:

- *Fundamentals of Statistical and Thermal Physics* (Reif)
- *Statistical Physics* (F. Mandl)

<b>Grading:</b>	Exams (3)	60%
	Homework (~ 50 problems)	15%
	Final Exam	25%

<b>Tentative exam dates:</b>	Wednesday, Sep. 22	
	Friday, Oct. 22	
	Monday, Nov. 22	
	Wednesday, Dec. 15	(Final, 11:30am, period 8).

### Homework Policies:

1. **Honor-code:** Students are allowed to consult with one another and to seek other resources to solve homework problems *excluding the use of a solutions manual or prior-year solutions*, but each student must turn in their *own* original work. Violations of the Honor Code will be treated on a case-by-case basis, but students should understand that potential consequences can be severe, including dismissal from Georgia Tech (see links at [www.honor.gatech.edu](http://www.honor.gatech.edu)).
2. **Due Date:** Homeworks are to be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date.
3. **Late Homework:** The homework score will be multiplied by 0.5 for each day past the due date; i.e. the homework score decays with a half-life of 1 day, beginning after class on the due date.
4. **Homework drops:** The lowest 10-12% of your homework problem scores (expected to be 5–6 problems) will be dropped. Consequently, missing a single assignment shouldn't affect your overall score.
5. **Email submission:** Allowed *only* if you have obtained prior approval from the professor (not TA). Some examples of valid reasons are illness (flu) and essential travel, e.g., for research, funerals, etc. Approval after the fact will be granted only in rare instances.