

**Plasma Physics**

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Office Hours: Open

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Class Schedule: Lectures: Tu Thurs 9:30 - 10:50 pm  
Mayer Hall Room 5301

Problem Sessions will be held on Tuesday nights in the Science & Engineering Research Facility (SERF) Building, Room 329 from 6:30-8:20 pm.

Attendance and participation in problem sessions is essential and therefore, MANDATORY. *First Problem Session: Tuesday, January 17, 2012*

Class Materials: i.) Lecture notes, problem sets, handouts, etc. will be available at <http://physics.ucsd.edu/students/courses/winter2012/physics218b/>

ii.) Selected reprints will be available at the web page

iii.) Required text:

*Plasma Physics for Astrophysics*  
Russell M. Kulsrud (Princeton University Press)

Recommended text:

*Physical Kinetics, Vol. 10*  
E.M. Lifshitz and L.P. Pitaevski (Butterworth-Heinemann)

Additional recommended texts are listed on the reference sheet.

Grades: 50% on problem sets (4-5) - due dates will be firm  
25% on weekly quizzes - begin 2nd week  
25% on participation in class and problem sessions, note preparation

There are no exams. No Final Exam will be given, if performance remains good.

N.B. (1) Quizzes will be short (~10 minutes) each Thursday. Quizzes will test SIMPLE, BASIC aspects of material covered in class the previous week. There will be 9 quizzes and the lowest 2 scores will be dropped. The aim of the quizzes is to 'encourage' you to keep up with material covered in class.

(2) Students are expected to regularly present and discuss problems in the weekly problem session. Problems will be rated according to difficulty.