UCLouvain

5.00 credits

lphys1

2023

114

22.5 h + 20.0 h

Q2

Thermodynamics

Teacher(s)	Fichefet Thierry ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Main themes	The basic notions of thermodynamics are then introduced. The concepts of thermodynamic state, pressure and temperature are defined. Internal energy and the first principle of thermodynamics as well as entropy and the second principle of thermodynamics are then presented. Equilibrium conditions and applications (including cycles and thermal machines) are studied. Finally, we describe the kinetic theory of gases, the macroscopic properties of perfect gases and the phase changes of pure bodies. In addition, during the semester, a conference on recent physics news in relation to the teaching unit is organized. The participation of students to this conference is mandatory.				
Learning outcomes					
Evaluation methods	The entrance test to laboratory and the laboratory report count for 10% of the final mark. This part of the mark will be used for each session and cannot be updated. The exam is written, lasts three hours and counts for 90% of the final mark. The exam includes two problems similar to those solved in the guided exercise sessions, for which full details of the solution are required, and one question that aims to check that the concepts and developments presented during the theoretical course have well been mastered (demonstration or application of laws or formulas). All the subjects addressed during the theoretical lessons and the guided exercise sessions must be known for the exam. No formula book will be made available to students. It is essential to bring a simple scientific calculator to the exam. The modalities mentioned above are valid whatever the exam session. If the sanitary conditions deteriorate, the modalities of teaching and examination will be reassessed according to the situation and the rules in force.				
Teaching methods	The teaching activities include (1) the theoretical course (9 sessions of 2 hours each), (2) the guided exercises (8 sessions of 2 hours each), (3) a practical laboratory work (1 sessions of 2 hours), (4) the tutorial and (5) a conference of 2 hours on the importance of thermodynamics in meteorology-climatology. It is essential to have a simple scientific calculator for the guided exercise sessions and the practical laboratory work. The different subjects are presented in the theoretical course via slides and blackboard notes. The fundamental concepts are illustrated using applications from modern life, short films or animations, and experiments. The guided exercises play an essential role in the comprehension of the theoretical course and allow the application of the studied theoretical concepts to real problems. The list of problems to be solved during an exercise session and a list of additional problems are posted on the LPHYS1114 MoodleUCLouvain website approximately one week prior to the exercise session. Preparation of the tasks to be carried out in the laboratory is posted on the LPHYS1114 MoodleUCLouvain website about one week prior to the session. It is essential that this description be read carefully and the online test be performed to access the session. This test is open to participation on the Thursday before the session. Access to the laboratory report must be written and submitted at the end of the session. This report is evaluated. A tutorial, during which the students may ask their questions to the teaching team, is held every two weeks. The best approach is to work consistently throughout the semester. In particular, it is essential that students regularly solve the exercises themselves, and do not simply read the solutions.				
Content	<ol> <li>Fundamental notions</li> <li>Work and heat</li> <li>Internal energy and the first law</li> <li>The enthalpy</li> <li>Perfect and real gases: microscopic approach</li> <li>Entropy and the second law</li> <li>Thermodynamic potentials and functions</li> <li>Phase changes of a pure body</li> <li>Thermal machines</li> </ol>				
Inline resources	The slides and the short films or animations projected during the theoritical course and the conference, the list of exercises to be solved, the supports for practical laboratory work and other useful documents are made available to students on the LPHYS1114 MoodleUCLouvain website.				

Faculty or entity in	PHYS
charge	

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Minor in Physics	MINPHYS	5		٩		
Bachelor in Physics	PHYS1BA	5		٩		