

GENERIC ELECTIVE (GE - 12): THERMAL PHYSICS

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course	Department offering the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical			
Thermal Physics GE – 12	4	3	0	1	Class XII pass	NIL	Physics and Astrophysics

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course will review the basic concepts of thermodynamics, kinetic theory of gases with a brief introduction to statistical mechanics. The primary goal is to understand the applications of fundamental laws of thermodynamics to various systems and processes. This coursework will also enable the students to understand the connection between the macroscopic observations of physical systems and microscopic behaviour of atoms and molecule through statistical mechanics.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, students will,

- Get an essence of the basic concepts of thermodynamics, the first and the second law of thermodynamics, the concept of entropy and the associated theorems, the thermodynamic potentials and their physical interpretations. They are also expected to learn Maxwell's thermodynamic relations.
- Know the fundamentals of the kinetic theory of gases, Maxwell-Boltzman distribution law, mean free path of molecular collisions, viscosity, thermal conductivity and diffusion.
- Learn about the black body radiations, Stefan- Boltzmann's law, Rayleigh-Jean's law and Planck's law and their significances.
- Learn the basics of quantum statistical distributions, viz., the Bose-Einstein statistics and the Fermi-Dirac statistics.

In the laboratory course, the students are expected to measure of Planck's constant using black body radiation, determine Stefan's constant, coefficient of thermal conductivity of a bad conductor and a good conductor, determine the temperature coefficient of resistance, study variation of thermo-emf across two junctions of a thermocouple with temperature etc.

SYLLABUS OF GE – 12

THEORY COMPONENT

Unit 1: (12 Hours)

Laws of Thermodynamics: Fundamental basics of Thermodynamic system and variables, Zeroth Law of Thermodynamics and temperature, First law and internal energy, various thermodynamical processes, Applications of First Law: general relation between C_P and C_V , work done during various processes, Compressibility and Expansion Coefficient, reversible and irreversible processes, Second law: Kelvin-Planck and Clausius statements, Carnot engine, Carnot cycle and theorem, basic concept of Entropy, Entropy changes in reversible and irreversible processes, Clausius inequality, Entropy-temperature diagrams.

Unit 2: (08 Hours)

Thermodynamical Potentials: Enthalpy, Gibbs, Helmholtz and Internal Energy functions, Maxwell's relations and applications - Clausius Clapeyron Equation, Expression for $(C_P - C_V)$, C_P/C_V , TdS equations, energy equations for ideal gases.

Unit 3: (8 Hours)

Kinetic Theory of Gases: Derivation of Maxwell's law of distribution of velocities and its experimental verification, Mean free path (zeroth order only), Transport Phenomena: Viscosity, Conduction and Diffusion (for vertical case).

Unit 4: (7 Hours)

Theory of Radiation: Blackbody radiation, Spectral distribution, Derivation of Planck's law, Deduction of Wien's law, Rayleigh-Jeans Law, Stefan Boltzmann Law and Wien's displacement law from Planck's law.

Unit 5: (10 Hours)

Statistical Mechanics: Macrostate and Microstate, phase space, Entropy and Thermodynamic Probability, Maxwell-Boltzmann law, Fermi-Dirac distribution law - Bose-Einstein distribution law - comparison of three statistics.

References:

Essential Readings:

- 1) A Treatise on Heat, Meghnad Saha, and B. N. Srivastava, 1969, Indian Press.
- 2) Heat and Thermodynamics, M. W. Zemasky and R. Dittman, 1981, McGraw Hill.
- 3) Thermodynamics, Kinetic theory and statistical thermodynamics, F. W. Sears and G. L. Salinger. 1988, Narosa.
- 4) Thermal Physics, A. Kumar and S. P. Taneja, 2014, R. Chand Publications.
- 5) Thermal Physics: S. C. Garg, R. M. Bansal and C.K. Ghosh, 2nd Ed. Tata McGraw-Hill.

Additional Readings:

- 1) Concepts in Thermal Physics: Blundell and Blundell, 2nd Ed. 2009, Oxford Univ. Press.

- 2) An Introduction to Thermal Physics: D. Schroeder 2021, Oxford Univ. Press (earlier published by Pearsons).
- 3) Heat, Thermodynamics and Statistical Physics, Brij Lal, N. Subrahmanyam and P. S. Hemne, S. Chand and Company.

PRACTICAL COMPONENT- 30 Hours

- Sessions on the construction and use of specific measurement instruments and experimental apparatuses used in the thermal physics lab, including necessary precautions.
- Sessions on the review of experimental data analysis, sources of error and their estimation in detail, writing of scientific laboratory reports including proper reporting of errors.
- Application to the specific experiments done in the lab.

Every student must perform at least four experiments from the following list.

- 1) To determine Mechanical Equivalent of Heat, J , by Callender and Barne's constant flow method.
- 2) Measurement of Planck's constant using black body radiation.
- 3) To determine Stefan's Constant.
- 4) To determine the coefficient of thermal conductivity of Cu by Searle's Apparatus.
- 5) To determine the coefficient of thermal conductivity of a bad conductor by Lee and Charlton's disc method by steam or electrical heating.
- 6) To determine the temperature co-efficient of resistance by Platinum resistance thermometer.
- 7) To study the variation of thermos-emf across two junctions of a thermocouple with temperature.

References (For Laboratory Work):

- 1) Advanced Practical Physics for students, B. L. Flint and H. T. Worsnop, 1971, Asia Publishing House.
- 2) A Text Book of Practical Physics, Indu Prakash and Ramakrishna, 11th Edition, 2011, Kitab Mahal.
- 3) A Laboratory Manual of Physics for Undergraduate Classes, D. P. Khandelwal, 1985, Vani Publication.
- 4) Practical Physics, G. L. Squires, 2015, 4th Edition, Cambridge University Press.
- 5) An Advanced Course in Practical Physics: D. Chattopadhyay and P. C. Rakshit, New Central Book Agency

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.