

AME310 Engineering Thermodynamics, Spring 2025

Lecture: M, W 4:00pm to 5:50pm, at THH212

Discussion section: Th 5:00pm to 5:50pm, at GFS116

Instructor: Takahiro Sakai, PhD

Contact information: Email: tsakai@usc.edu, Office: OHE430H, Phone: 213(740)5367

Office hour: MW 10:00-11:00am, 2:00-3:00pm

Teaching Assistant: Kyuho Van (email: kyuhovan@usc.edu, Office hour: TBA)

Learning Management: Brightspace and Gradescope for homework submissions

Textbook: Borgnakke and Sonntag, Fundamentals of Thermodynamics 10th edition, Wiley (New edition (11th ed.) has been released very recently, but we will use the 10th edition.) Electronic version OK.

Covered Topics:

Chapter 1: Introduction and preliminaries

Chapter 2: Properties of pure substance

Chapter 3: Energy equation and first law of thermodynamics

Chapter 4: Energy Analysis for a control volume

Chapter 5: The second law of thermodynamics

Chapter 6: Entropy

Chapter 7: Entropy analysis for a control volume

Chapter 8: Exergy

Chapter 9: Power and refrigeration systems – With phase change

Chapter 10: Power and refrigeration systems – Gaseous working fluids

Remark: Since the course contents are dense, the materials will be covered in relatively fast pace throughout the semester. You are expected to pre-and-post-study materials by reading my slides, notes and textbook and by doing homework assignments in regular basis.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the roles of working fluid as a medium of energy transfer and learn how to find thermodynamic properties of working fluids, including ideal gases and pure substances in liquid, steam, and vapor phases in thermodynamic equilibrium.
- Apply the laws of thermodynamics to various control volumes in steady and transient settings and analyze the performance of thermodynamic devices in terms of energy, entropy, and exergy.
- Understand the concepts of thermodynamic cycles used as heat engines, heat pumps and refrigerators and their efficiency measures; understand the basic roles of subcomponents that constitute such thermodynamic cycles.

- Obtain insights on irreversibility and unavailable energy in actual thermodynamic processes and understand the importance of minimizing them in designing efficient thermodynamic systems.
- Exposure to currently used thermodynamic cycles in power, refrigeration and propulsion systems and their performance analysis using idealized model cycles.

Grading weights: Homework 10%, Exam-1 30%, Exam-2 30%, and Final exam 30%

Homework Assignment: Weekly homework assignments will be posted to Brightspace by Friday evening. Due is in one week. You must submit the work saved as a single PDF file to your Gradescope account (<https://www.gradescope.com/>). Your **lowest three scores will be dropped**.

Exams: There will be three exams scheduled on **Wednesday, February 12 (Exam 1)**, on **Wednesday, March 26 (Exam 2)** and on **Wednesday, May 7, 4:30pm to 6:30pm (Final exam)**. Please avoid planning travels on those dates.

Makeup Policy: There is **No makeup** for any missed homework assignment in any circumstance regardless the nature of excuse. Instead, we will drop three lowest homework scores. This is purposed as a fringe for unforeseen emergency regardless of the nature, but not to reward a better grade or some escape from study duty during the semester. If you unfortunately encounter a family-related or a medical or other types of emergencies that completely hampered you from taking a midterm exam, a makeup exam will be arranged later, provided you were able to provide legitimate proofs. The makeup exam would be completely different and necessarily more difficult than the original exam. This makeup is allowed one-time only. Makeup is never allowed for the final exam strictly per the university policy.

Letter Grade Policy: The standard letter grade scaling adopted by U.S. colleges will be used as a standard metrics for the course letter grades: A (93-100); A- (90-92); B+ (88-89); B (83-87); B- (80-82); C+ (78-79); C (73-77); C- (70-72); D+ (68-69); D (63-67); D- (60-62); F (59 and below) This scaling applies to the **total weighted score** earned during the semester (after dropping some assignment scores established by the course instructor). Number under the decimal point will be truncated (e.g., 89.99 truncates to 89 with B+). If the class average falls below 80 (cutoff of B-), then this scaling will be adjusted so that the class average is set to be a new cutoff of B-. If the class average ends up higher than 80 (B-), then the original scaling will be used with no change.

Policy for Incomplete (IN) Grade: If a student was unable to take the final exam due to uncontrollable incident unfortunately, the letter grade will be recorded as Incomplete (IN), provided the student's grade is Passing at the end of 12th week of the semester, which includes two midterm exams. To complete the course, the student will need to take the formal final exam during the exam period in the following semester. Once the semester ended, the student will have no opportunity to receive any instructions, including auditing any AME310 class, office hours, final exam review sessions, Brightspace, etc.

Students and Disability Accommodations: OSAS (Office of Student Accessibility Services) registered students must submit a letter of accommodations to the instructor **within two weeks** starting the semester.

Academic Integrity: The USC Viterbi School of Engineering adheres to the University's policies concerning Academic Integrity as described in the *USC Student Handbook* (<https://policy.usc.edu/studenthandbook/>). All faculty, staff and students share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of integrity. Students are expected to be aware of, and to observe, the academic integrity standards set forth in *the USC Student Handbook*.

Tentative Weekly Schedule

Wk	Day	Mon/Wed	Topics
1	13-Jan	M	Concept and definitions
	15-Jan	W	Properties of pure substances
2	20-Jan	M	MLK day (Holiday)
	22-Jan	W	Properties of pure substances
3	27-Jan	M	Work and heat
	29-Jan	W	1st Law CM (1)
4	3-Feb	M	1st Law CM (2)
	5-Feb	W	1st Law CM (3)
5	10-Feb	M	1st Law CV (1)
	12-Feb	W	Exam 1
6	17-Feb	M	President's day (Holiday)
	19-Feb	W	1st Law CV (2)
7	24-Feb	M	Heat Engines
	26-Feb	W	2nd Law (1)
8	3-Mar	M	2nd Law (2)
	5-Mar	W	Entropy (1)
9	10-Mar	M	Entropy (2)
	12-Mar	W	Entropy (3)
*	17-Mar	M	Spring recess
	19-Mar	W	Spring recess
10	24-Mar	M	2nd Law CV (1)
	26-Mar	W	Exam 2
11	31-Mar	M	2nd Law CV (2)
	2-Apr	W	2nd Law CV (3)
12	7-Apr	M	Exergy (1)
	9-Apr	W	Exergy (2)
13	14-Apr	M	Power and Refrigeration cycles (1)
	16-Apr	W	Power and Refrigeration cycles (2)
14	21-Apr	M	Power and Refrigeration cycles (3)
	23-Apr	W	Air-standard cycles (1)
15	28-Apr	M	Air-standard cycles (2)
	30-Apr	W	Air-standard cycles (3)
*	7-May	W	Final Exam 4:30pm-6:30pm

Support Systems:

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call

suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours – 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX (EEO-TIX) - (213) 740-5086

eeotix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

usc-advocate.symlicity.com/care_report

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) - (213) 740-0776

osas.usc.edu

OSAS ensures equal access for students with disabilities through providing academic accommodations and auxiliary aids in accordance with federal laws and university policy.

USC Campus Support and Intervention - (213) 821-4710

campussupport.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information.

Office of the Ombuds - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)

ombuds.usc.edu

A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice - (323) 442-3340 or otfp@med.usc.edu

chan.usc.edu/otfp

Confidential Lifestyle Redesign services for USC students to support health promoting habits and routines that enhance quality of life and academic performance.

Disclaimer: The contents of this syllabus are tentative. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus during the semester.