Instructor: Dr. Charles H. Mahler, Phone (570) 321-4351 or (570) 322-8840 (h), mahler@lycoming.edu
Office Hours: Heim 202, MWF 10 AM – 12 noon, by appointment, or drop by.

If you have questions or comments about anything in the course, please come see me. I am ready and willing to meet with you and discuss your concerns, answer questions, explain concepts, solve problems, etc. I would rather help you to understand something before a quiz or test or other assignment, than to find out you don't understand it while grading your work.

Class: meets MWF from 2:00 to 3:05 PM in Lynn G53.


Evaluation and Grading: Grades will be based on the following weighting scheme: 3 Exams (45%), a Final Exam (20%), Paper and Presentation (20%), and Quizzes (15%). 2 extra credit points (to a limit of 15, on a 1000 point scale) will be given for each Biology / Chemistry / Physics Colloquium attended (send me a brief email summary within 24 hours). Alternative extra credit will be available if your schedule conflicts with colloquium (but you must see me to arrange this by Friday, October 30, 2015).

ALL EXAMINATIONS ARE COMPREHENSIVE, ESPECIALLY THE FINAL.

The following scale will determine the final letter grade: A > 90% > B > 80% > C > 70% > D > 60% > F. Plus and minus grades are included in these ranges and will be determined at the end of the semester. Adjustments to this scale are possible, but unlikely.

Exams:
- Hour Exam 1 Friday, September 25, 2015
- Hour Exam 2 Friday, October 23, 2015
- Hour Exam 3 Friday, November 20, 2015
- Final Exam Monday, December 7, 2015, 8:30 – 11:30 AM

Lecture Attendance and Absences: Lecture attendance with textbooks is required. All lecture absences after three will be penalized 2 percent (of total possible points) per day. All lecture absences need an excuse. Notification is expected as soon as possible for planned (athletic events, class trips) or emergency (illness) absences; call or e-mail me or the Department Secretary (321-4180). The cause of absences must be verified by a Dean or substantiated (note from coach or parent, doctor's excuse, etc.).

Exam Absences: No make-up exams will be given. The (cumulative) final exam grade (as a percent) will be substituted for one excused absence exam grade (as a percent). Barring exceptional circumstances, all subsequent missed exams will receive a grade of zero.

Quizzes: Six quizzes will be given at the end of the period on (mostly) Fridays this semester: Sept. 11, Sept. 18, Oct. 9, Wed. Oct. 14, Nov. 6, and Nov. 13, 2015. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped, but no other quiz make-ups will be provided.

Review Sessions: A review session will be held before each exam. The reviews will be in Heim 215 or other
announced room from 8:30 to 10 PM the Wednesday evening prior. This may be changed by a vote of the whole class. Keys for quizzes and exams will be posted on Moodle and/or reviewed in class. Final exam review time is TBA.

**Miscellaneous:** *Administrative procedures* (withdrawals, etc.) will follow the published guidelines and rules of the college and department. There will be a class Moodle page.

**General Comments:** Much of the course material involves a high degree of conceptual understanding (not simple memorization), so adequate preparation and study are essential. It is **not** sufficient to learn the material from the lecture alone - you should read and think about the topics covered **before** attending lecture. If you still can't get a problem or concept, please see me for help. We will cover much detailed and difficult material this semester, so our pace must be geared toward those who are prepared to learn.

**Academic Honesty:** On anything submitted for a grade, copying someone else's work or allowing another to copy your work and submit it as their own is academic dishonesty and can lead to penalties such as failing the assignment or even dismissal from the college. Unless otherwise stated, all work submitted for a grade should be your own work (although you can study with others to understand the concepts). Always include citations for all sources consulted in papers or homework to avoid plagiarism. For further information on the college policy on academic dishonesty, see the *Pathfinder* or *Student Handbook.*

**Scores** will be posted, generally after exams, using a secret, four-character code chosen by each student. If you prefer not to have your scores posted, let me know (in writing) by Friday 8/28/2015.

**College Policies:** Because this course meets a distribution requirement, it includes a writing component. At least 10 pages of writing must be produced by each student during the semester and some of those assignments will be formally evaluated for writing. I will be reserving some class or office time to help each student with written work.

Lycoming College provides academic support for students who officially disclose diagnosed learning, physical, and psychological disabilities. If you have a diagnosed disability and would like to seek accommodations, please contact Jilliane Bolt-Michewicz, Assistant Dean of Academic Services/Director of the Academic Resource Center. Dean Bolt-Michewicz will help you arrange for appropriate academic accommodations. She can be reached by calling (570) 321-4050, emailing michewicz@lycoming.edu, or visiting her office (Academic Resource Center, 3rd Floor of Snowden Library).

**Learning Objectives:** In support of the Lycoming College Mission Statement and the College Philosophy, this course seeks to help students enrolled in it to “explore new concepts and perspectives” and “develop communication and critical thinking skills” as part of a “distinguished baccalaureate education in the liberal arts and sciences”.

**Paper, presentation, and field trips:** All students will write a research paper on a topic of their choosing related to energy. Each student will also make a brief individual presentation (on the same topic as their paper) in class. Both of these will be due towards the end of the semester, with more information provided in class. The class will also have field trips to energy-related sites, with time, date and topics to be announced.