

Spring 2008 course outline for Chemistry 352

Professor John Head

Office: Bilger 303 — Email: johnh@hawaii.edu

The main focus of Chemistry 352 will be understanding the physical chemistry of microscopic systems. During most of the semester we will discuss quantum mechanics and spectroscopy and will essentially work through the book 'Quantum Chemistry, 2nd Edition' by McQuarrie. Chapters 11 through 17 in Atkins' Physical Chemistry book which was used in Chem 351 will serve as useful additional reading. If there is time, the last 5 lectures will discuss kinetics of chemical reactions and will be based on Part 3 of Atkins' text.

Grading

The grading of 352 will consist of the following components.

1) Homework. (10% of the final grade). The best way to understand physical chemistry is by problem solving. Weekly problem sets will be assigned and graded. In addition suggestions for practice problems from the text will be given. These practice problem will not be collected but may appear on the midterms and final.

2) 3 Midterms. (Each 15% of the final grade). The dates of the mid-terms will be:

- i) Monday February 11
- ii) Monday March 10
- iii) Monday April 14

Each midterm will be at the usual lecture period time.

3) Final examination. (45% of the final grade).

Date of Final: Monday May 12 9:45-11:45

A third of the final will test your understanding of material from the last quarter of the semester, the other two thirds will consist of questions which draw on your knowledge from the complete course.

Note: time does not permit any make up exams. Mark in your diaries now the time of these exams because there will be no special scheduling of tests.