

Physics 311, Fall 2008

Homework 7

1. Submit group member lists for the group project by the end of October 23 (Thursday). See attachment for project description.
2. Describe your thoughts on the global warming issue. Due October 28 (Tuesday).

Note: Exam II will take place on NOV 6, THURSDAY

Physics 311, Fall 2008

Group Project: Life in the Solar System and Beyond

1. Form of the project:
 - a. the project will consist of three parts (three self-consistent mini-projects), and students are divided into three groups according to your interest/background to work on one of the mini-projects. Students in each group elect for a group leader, and specify group members' roles and responsibilities.
 - b. For each project, students in the group should collaborate to: research relevant literature on your group topic, prepare a report for your group mini-project, lead discussions or collaboration with other groups, present the report to the class, and/or lead discussions in the class.
 - c. The final reports will be presented (by yourselves!) in-class in mid-November . Desirably, each presentation will last for 20 minutes, leaving some room for questions and discussions.

2. Suggested topics of the 3 mini-projects:
 - a. Mechanism and history of life
 - b. Life signatures and habitable environment in the solar system
 - c. Search for Extra-terrestrial life (astronomical techniques to discover signatures of life or environments suitable for life).

3. Grading: all Students are required to participate in the project. Your grade will be determined by your collaborators in the same group according to your contribution to the project. The grade is given on a **0 - 5 scale**, i.e., the full score is 5 points, and the one who does not participate at all will receive 0 point. Your scores will be counted towards your final grading.

4. Each group should turn in the group member list (with the group leader identified) **by the end of October 23, Thursday**.