Guidelines for the Group Presentations

By now, each of you should be in a group that has decided on its topic for a presentation in the last week of the semester. Each group will have 20 minutes for its presentation (including questions). There is no need to submit a paper, your grade will be based on your presentation in class.

I will be looking to see how clearly you articulate significant ideas of thermal and statistical physics in your presentations. Make sure that your talks make frequent, clear and specific use of the critical concepts we have covered during the semester. I will be assigning group grades using the following criteria:

- How clear and understandable was your presentation?
- How well focused was your presentation (did you stick to one or two main points and explain them well in the time allowed, or were you "all over the place"?)
- How well did you integrate key concepts of thermo/stat mech in your presentation? In other words, if your topic is the thermodynamics of photosynthesis, was it a clear exposition of the role of thermodynamics in the proces, or was it a standard Biol talk with a nod toward the first law? This will be a very important criterion for me.
- How well did you generate class discussion?
- Were you organized and able to complete your presentation in the time allotted? Because of time constraints, I will be fairly ruthless about stopping you at 20 mins.

I am happy to meet with your group in the week after Thanksgiving (or review any emails you would like to send me) to help guide you to ensure that your plans are on target.

Remember that I will need your peer grades by 5 pm on the day after you present.