1. Topic: some aspect of plasma physics relevant to topics covered in PHYS 480, with emphasis on fundamental plasma physics. As always, the level of the presentation should be determined by the audience; in this case, mainly your classmates, but also the instructor.

Suggestions: (i) A plasma physics research project in which you have been involved, (ii) A deeper investigation or an extension of a topic covered in class or in Dendy's book, (iii) A review of a relevant journal article.

The main goals of this exercise are to learn more plasma physics and to practice and improve presentation skills.

2. Please email a title and abstract (about half a page) to aac@rice.edu no later than Thursday November 10, 2011. The abstract should be a brief description of the topic and an explanation of how it is related to material covered in PHYS 480.

3. The time allotted for each presentation is 20 minutes - 15 minutes for the talk and 5 minutes for questions and discussion. I strongly encourage you to practice your talk extensively before you present it in class!

4. In your presentation include a bibliography that lists the sources you used (e.g., textbooks, journal articles, etc.)

5. Please bring hard copies of your presentation for the class.

6. The presentations will take place in the last week of classes, in class.

7. You must also grade at least three presentations by other students in the class, using the attached form. This is also the form I will use to grade each presentation. If you give me at least three completed forms I will add 10 points to the score for your presentation, which will be graded out of 100 points.

Anthony Chan