

Syllabus: ATL170: Mobile Heating and Air Conditioning Systems

Spring 2026, Section 5133

Lecture:

Room 2329 Lounibos Hall, on the parking lot side.
Mondays 1:00 to 3:00pm

Lab:

Room 2360 Lounibos Hall, the "AutoShop"
Mondays 3:00 to 6:00pm

Instructor:

David Lemmer
E-mail: <dlemmer@santarosa.edu>
Phone: (707) 695-4250c (ok text or call)
Office: Lounibos Service Center 2303/AutoShop
W 10:00am till Noon and 1:30-3:00pm or by appointment

Prerequisite:

Course Completion of ATL101 and ATL161 or Equivalent

Recommended Preparation:

Eligibility for ENGL1A and MATH25 or Equivalent

Course Description:

Students will study the theory, service, and repair of many types of mobile heating and air conditioning systems. This course includes environmental and safety concerns using R-12, R-134a, and R-1234yf refrigerants. Engine heating and cooling, manual and automatic system controls will also be introduced. Prepares the student to take the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) A7 Heating and Air Conditioning or T7 Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) certification tests.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify and describe the theory, service, and repair of common types of automotive heating and air conditioning systems.
2. Use industry standard recovery, recycling, and recharging equipment to diagnose and service automotive air conditioning systems.
3. Demonstrate the skills necessary to pass the ASE A7 or T7 Heating and Air Conditioning Examination.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Use related tools and equipment safely.
2. Recognize environmental issues and apply standards involved in maintenance and repair of automotive refrigeration systems.
3. Describe the operation of basic automotive heating and refrigeration systems.
4. Identify and describe the components used in automotive heating and refrigeration systems.
5. Inspect and validate individual system components.
6. Diagnose and repair electrical control systems.
7. Correctly use diagnostic tools.
8. Analyze and write the complaint, cause, and correction of a system failure.
9. Demonstrate the skills necessary to complete the A7 or T7 portion of the ASE test series.

Topics and Scope:

- I. Principles of the Basic Refrigeration System and How They Apply to Any System
 - A. Automotive equipment
 - B. Transportation equipment
 - C. Hybrid and electric equipment
 - D. Agricultural and construction equipment
- II. Temperature and Pressure Fundamentals
- III. Engine Cooling Systems
- IV. Manual and Automatic Comfort Systems
- V. Systems Components
 - A. R-12
 - B. R-134a
 - C. R-1234yf
- VI. Case and Duct Systems
- VII. Air Conditioning Tools Used in Diagnosing and Repairing
- VIII. AC System Testing and Diagnoses
- IX. Electrical Control Systems
- X. System Service
- XI. Safety and Hazards Concerning Use of Refrigerants
- XII. Retrofitting R-12 Systems to R-134a Refrigerants

All topics are covered in the lecture and lab portions of the course.

Representative assignments:

Lecture-Related Assignments:

1. Reading 25-50 pages per week
2. Chapter-end ASE style questions
3. Mid-term and final exams

Lab-Related Assignments:

1. Participate in classroom discussion
2. Demonstration worksheet for each classroom discussion
3. Skill demonstrations, such as:
 - A. Employ rules about shop safety
 - B. Locate components used in automobile refrigeration systems
 - C. Identify, by touch, the areas of a refrigeration system which should be hot and cold and compare findings with the textbook and class discussions
 - D. Make use of recovery, recycling, and recharging equipment
 - E. Set up a system performance test
 - F. Show skill in using diagnostic tools

The mid-term exam and the final exam are to be completed via your Canvas account on-line. The mid-term exam will have a long window of time when you can take it, but a fixed amount of time to complete once you start. Multiple attempts are available for the mid-term if you want to maximize your score. The final exam will be completed in class on Monday of finals week. All the important dates and times can be found at the end of this syllabus and on Canvas.

Methods of Evaluation / Basis of Grade:

Table listing methods of evaluation

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skill and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.	Writing 0%
None	
* This is a degree applicable course, but assessment tools based on writing are not included because problem solving assessments and skill demonstrations are more appropriate for this course.	
Problem solving: Assessment tools, <i>other than exams</i>, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem-solving skills.	Problem Solving 10%
Homework assignments	
Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.	Skill Demonstrations 20%
Weekly lab assignments	
Exams: All forms of formal testing, <i>other than skill performance exams</i>.	Exams 65%
Mid-term and Final Exams	
Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.	Other 5%
Participation	

Attendance/Tardiness: Your attendance is expected at all class meetings and tardiness is not acceptable. You are expected to remain in class or lab until the end of class.

Attendance at all classroom and lab sessions is expected. Missing more than 10% of this time can result in being dropped from the class. We only meet 15 times! What this means is that **no more than 2** class days can be missed.

This means you may be dropped from the roster if you miss 3 class days.

Follow your grade totals online:

Remember that the midterm and final exams are 65% of your grade. Unless otherwise informed by the instructor, grades are calculated based on total semester points that you have earned. Grades may be adjusted to a class curve, but you are guaranteed the grade listed in the following chart if you attain the point total associated with that grade.

Letter grade A = 90% - 100%

Letter grade B = 80% - 90%

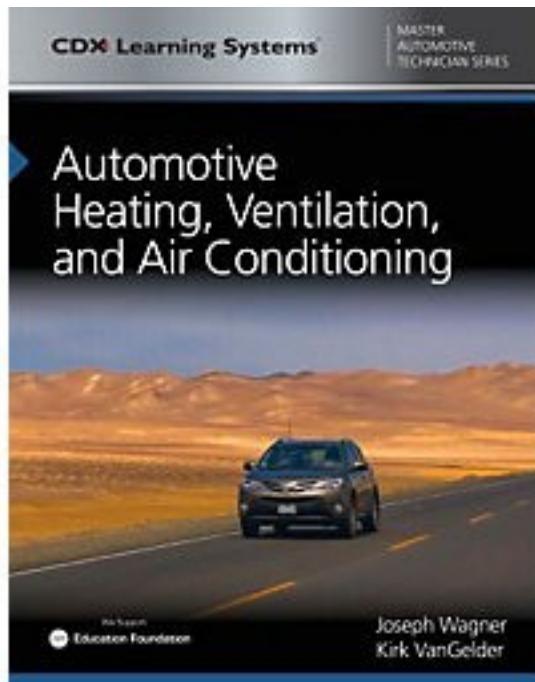
Letter grade C = 70% - 80%

Note: This is a required class for the
ATL Certificate and the ATL AS Degrees.
A letter grade of C or better is required.

Letter grade D = 60% -70%

Letter grade F = ≤ 60%

Textbook: Automotive Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning



ISBN: 9781284119244

Author: Wagner

Publisher: Jones & Bartlett Learning

Course Policies

Cell Phones: Cell phones have limited value while in class or lab. A common employer's shop rule may be no cell phone use during work hours. In this class I am going to say, "no inappropriate use of the phone in class or in lab". If you are observed using your phone inappropriately in class, you may be asked to leave until the end of the next break. Multiple infractions can result in a 2-day suspension.

Note: if you receive an emergency call, please step outside to talk.

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating or plagiarism are unacceptable behavior and will result in an immediate 2-day suspension from class for all students involved; no exceptions.

No Smoking Policy: Santa Rosa Junior College is a non-smoking campus. This now includes "vaping". No smoking is allowed anywhere on campus or within 20 feet of the campus.

Class Participation: Your participation in class discussions is recommended and expected. Asking questions is a short cut to knowledge.

Missed Assignments Policy: Missed assignments are discouraged but may be rescheduled with the instructor on a case-by-case basis up to two weeks past the original due date.

Table listing critical dates this term 1

Date Class Begins:	1/12/2026	Date Class Ends:	5/11/2026
Last Day Add w/o add code:	1/18/2026	Last Day Add with add code:	2/1/2026
Last Day Drop for Refund:	1/25/2026	Last Day for P/NP option:	5/15/2026
Last Day Drop w/o W:	2/1/2026	Last Day Drop with W:	4/19/2026
First Census Date:	2/2/2026	Date Final Exam:	5/18/2026

Projects In The Shop

Lab Safety: Safe procedures take precedence over everything else in our shop! Safe clothing must be worn at all times. Safety glasses must be worn when working on projects in the shop. If it cannot be done safely, **don't do it.** If you have any doubt, ask the instructor. **If you find yourself struggling for more than a few minutes, there is likely a tool for that or some trick of the trade.** Please don't hesitate to ask, I am more than happy to share those with you.

Student Conduct:

We will conduct ourselves in a manner that reflects our awareness of common standards of decency and the rights of others. All students are expected to know the Student Conduct Code (http://www.santarosa.edu/for_students/rules-regulations/scs/section1.shtml) and adhere to it in this class. Students who violate the code may be suspended from 2 classes and referred to Vice President of Student Services for discipline.

Respect:

The best way to learn is through active participation; therefore, we respect others when talking by being on time, listening actively, and by being polite even when we disagree with another's viewpoint. Please turn off all electronic devices. If you use a laptop for note taking, please sit in the front row with the sound off. No food in class please.

Academic Integrity: All written work is to be original; plagiarism of any kind will result in a failing grade on that assignment. Students who plagiarize or cheat may be suspended [for one or two class meetings by the instructor] and referred to the Vice President of Student Services for discipline sanction, in cases of egregious violation. Please read the college policy/procedure on academic integrity at:
<http://www.santarosa.edu/polman/3acadpro/3.11P.pdf>

Emergency Evacuation Plan: In the event of an emergency during class that requires evacuation of the building, please leave the class immediately, but calmly. Our class will meet at the south end of Lounibos Hall in the parking lot to make sure everyone got out of the building safely and to receive further instructions. If you are a student with a disability who may need assistance in an evacuation, please see me during my office hours as soon as possible so we can discuss an evacuation plan.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If you need disability related accommodations for this class, such as a note taker, test-taking services, special furniture, etc., please provide the Authorization for Academic Accommodations (AAA letter) from the Disability Resources Department (DRD) to the instructor as soon as possible. You may also speak with the instructor privately during office hours about your accommodations. If you have not received authorization from DRD, it is recommended that you contact them directly. DRD is located in Analy Village on the Santa Rosa campus, and Jacobs Hall on the Petaluma Campus.

This syllabus is intended to give the student guidance in what may be covered during the semester and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the instructor reserves the right to modify, supplement and make changes as course needs arise.

Andragogical Philosophy

My philosophy is to provide you with the basic science and theory behind all the automotive systems covered in class. In addition, I will give you practical, hands-on tips for being a successful automotive technician. Ultimately, my goal is to empower you to think for yourselves to create problem solving techniques that you can use in any situation for the rest of your lives. Key to success here is communication, cooperation, creativity, and a desire for excellence. Automotive technology is evolving as rapidly now as it ever has. Keeping up with that promises to be as rewarding as it is challenging. I promise to be your partner and mentor as you begin your trek down this path.

This syllabus is an agreement, continued participation in this class means that you agree to the policies and procedures outlined in this syllabus.

David J Lemmer
