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Grading:
About 5 homework assignments (50%)
Two exams (20%): November 4th and December 9th
Paper/presentation (10%)

Topics Covered:
Introduction to magnetospheres
Characterizing plasmas
Generation of the solar wind
Magnetohydrodynamics (and extension to other methods)
Diffusion of magnetic field in a plasma
Intro to waves and instabilities in a plasma
Diamagnetism and boundaries
Guiding center theory
Magnetic Mirroring and the radiation belts
Gradient and curvature drifts
Currents in the magnetosphere
Substorms, storms and aurora
Plasma processes at other planets and moons
Related topics (dynamo theory, lab plasmas)