

# Lecture Notes from 10/25

## Terrestrial Planets

Mercury =

(Life Moon / no  
Mars)

- \* Small iron core - center
- \* heavy cratering - surface shrunk
- HOT and COLD
- \* weak magnetic field 600° Kelvin

Venus

interior = internal heat - radioactive decay / early collisions

Earth like planet

light cratering - volcanism (active)

2 big highland areas - and gently rolling hills

too hot for liquid

750° Kelvin

too dense of an atmosphere

Earth

→ size geological process

→ weather features

) most alike w/ Earth

Mars

(Has a Grand  
Canyon)

Solid core ; 260° K ;

Moderate cratering - wind erosion / active terrain forming features

(heavy cratering on Venus = why)

Weak G.H. Effect

no planetary magnetic field / no strong external mag. field

- Mars is distinct to the Moon

Face on Mars "Infernus"