GEO2242, Fall 2020
Sections: 195C [14371], 19FE [14372], & 4297 [14373]
Gen Ed 'P' – Physical Science
EXTREME WEATHER
[3 Credit Hours]

Spring 2019
Instructor: Holli Capps
Email: hcapps65@ufl.edu
Office Hours - TBD

Course Website: Log in to CANVAS at *http://lss.at.ufl.edu*

Course Communications: You can email me at email given above or via email in Canvas. If you email me via Canvas they keep a full record of it – so this is preferred.

Required Texts [2]: '**Exploring Physical Geography'**, by Reynolds, Rohli, Johnson, Waylen and Francek, 3rd Edition, **eText** from McGraw Hill. Available access to sign up for this text can be found by logging into the course on Canvas, and accessing via the canvas page. Cost is around $80.00. This is a required eText and you must purchase it via Canvas. Weekly reading assignments, quiz assessments and homework assignments will be run through this webpage and ebook and so you MUST obtain this ASAP.

See information in Canvas on How to Sign Up and Purchase this ebook – on 'Home' page of canvas course, via UF All-Access

The second required textbook is **'Going to Extremes: Mud, Sweat and Frozen Tears'** by Nick Middleton, PAN Books. Price varies – Kindle edition is $8.00, paperback available used for less than $15.00. You will need this book in your possession before Module 3 of the course. It is available in electronic versions for less than $10 from numerous sites. Again information and links to this book can be found under the 'Modules' tab, and then 'Accessing the textbook' link.
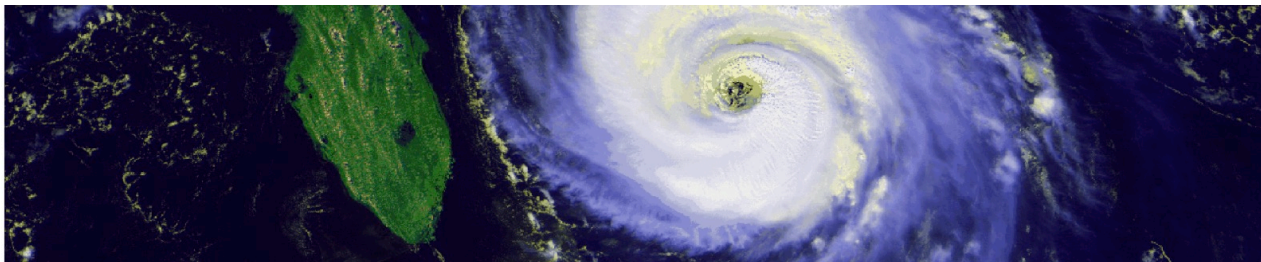
Course Description: This course will address issues relating to extreme weather events and extreme climates here on planet earth.

Course Goals and/or Objectives: This course will introduce students to the basic concepts of the science of weather and climate and current scientific developments in such areas as extreme weather prediction, global climate change, and improved forecasting of events. In addition, the course will address the impact of extreme climate and weather events on society and the environment. The goal of this course is to bring weather and climate alive for you through required readings, assignments, video presentations, satellite technologies, online class activities and computer simulations. Weekly readings will be enhanced through the use of such multimedia products and online class activities, reinforcing concepts related to extreme climate and severe weather events.

Course Policies:

Assigned Readings and Assignments: Every week there are assigned chapter readings with related chapter assessments to be completed – these test that you have completed the readings and are able to answer the multi-choice assessments related to each chapter. In addition, to test more in-depth understanding a HW assignment related to the chapter will also be assigned. These chapter assessments and chapter HW will be on MH Connect (via Canvas) for the text 'Exploring Physical Geography' and will be posted within Canvas, for the 'Going to Extremes Book'. The formats and requirements will differ across the two required texts. In general the chapter readings and their assessments are worth 100 points, and the homework assignments are worth 25 and all are due on MONDAYS. Due dates and times will be enforced.

Online Class activities: Every week there are assigned 'Class Activities'. The goal of these activities is to test your understanding of the material, to reinforce concepts from the readings and videos, and to allow you to apply your skills and knowledge in a relaxed online learning environment. These activities are worth 25-50 points each and more than one activity may occur in a given module. You cannot make up these activities if you miss the deadlines. A couple of these activities are assigned via the ebook but most are in canvas. Class Activities are always due on WEDNESDAY.

Weather blog: Every week you will monitor the weather. In the first week when you begin weather forecasting you will pick 1 location within the U.S. and 1 location outside the U.S. to monitor the weather for. In total you will complete 5 weather blogs at assigned times throughout the semester. You will develop a diary/blog, [specific instructions on how to do this are in Canvas under the 'Weather Blog' tab], of these locations. You will write your forecasts entries and submit them on FRIDAYS, giving a forecast for the Saturday through following Saturday (i.e., the week ahead). You will submit your weekly blog by Fridays at 11:50 pm in Canvas. Include maps and graphics – explain in detail why the forecast is as it is, the science behind it. Do NOT plagiarize, do NOT copy other blogs. You need to read and review different information sites, compile maps etc. and then based on this you will then go
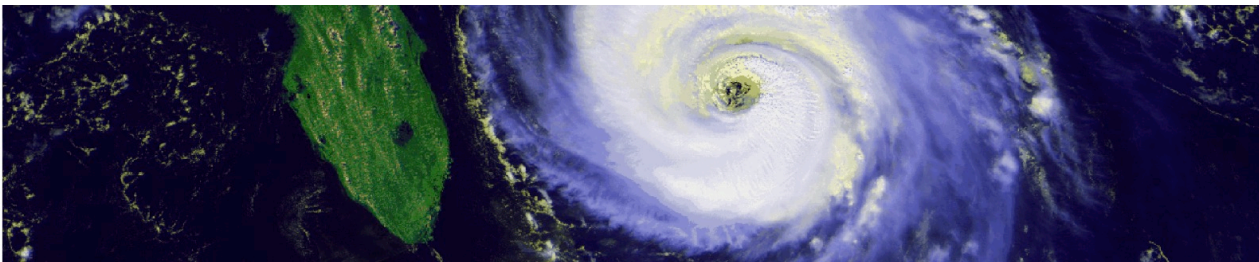
ahead and make your own forecast – saying why you think this. A list of sites used and sources of all figures must be included each week. I expect significant improvement in what you write as the semester progresses and you learn more etc. These weekly weather blog assignments are each worth 50 points, and you will complete 5 blogs. You weather 'blog' or 'diary' will be worth 250 points – this is a significant portion of your grade (same as the final exam!) so do it well. Make time each week to focus on this. If fun news items relate to your area, or other interesting items occur, go ahead and throw these in etc. Each week you will make these entries in Canvas – in your individual blog location.

See the 'Weather Blogs' listed under 'Assignments' for due dates. Weather blogs are always due on Fridays.

Exams: There will be a final exam for this course. This will test your comprehension and understanding of the materials from the full course. Weekly readings, assessments, assignment, weather blog, forecasts and class activities will compose the majority of your grade. The final exam will be worth 250 points. The final exam is scheduled for **Wednesday December 16th 2020**. It will be a comprehensive exam and will cover all material in the course. Note: you will soon realize all the material is related and builds across the course, the same concepts will appear again and again throughout the course and so this really is the optimum way to test it. Example questions and exams will be made available as study guides prior to the final exam.

UF Policies:

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php.

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats.
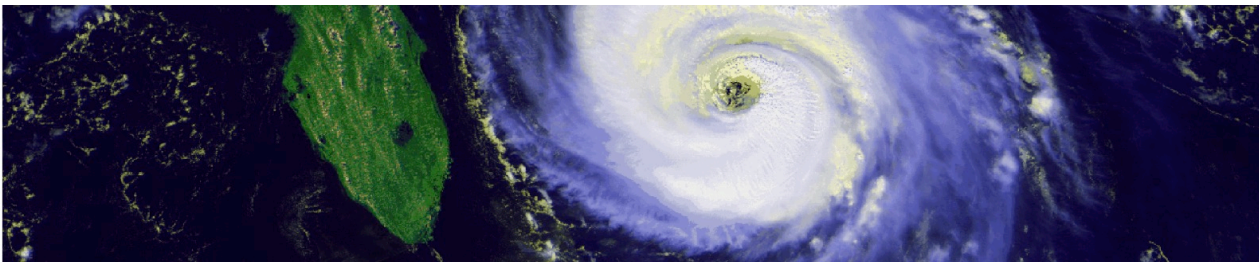
Getting Help:

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:
- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor immediately.

Grading Policies:

Assignment Type	Points
Chapter Assessments	100 each
Chapter HW	25 each
Class Activities	25-50 each
Weekly Weather Blog (5 weeks @ 50 points per blog)	250 total
Final Exam	250 total

GRADING SCHEME:

All grades will be available for you to see in Canvas and will be updated weekly. It is your responsibility to know how well you are doing in the class.

93-100% = A
90-92.9% = A-
87-89.9% = B+
83-86.9% = B
80-82.9% = B-
77-79.9% = C+
73-76.9% = C
70-72.9% = C-
67-69.9% = D+
63-66.9% =D
60-62.9% = D-
Less than 60 = E (Fail)

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.