



Welcome to GEO2242 Extreme Weather!

GEO2242 (Summer B 2017): Course Syllabus

Sections #4D52 (UFO) and #4B41 (DL), Gen Ed 'P'-Physical Science

EXTREME WEATHER

[3 Credit Hours]

Summer 2017

Instructor: Audrey C. Smith

Email: audreyculver@ufl.edu

- **Office hours:** You can email me for an appointment to call or chat online
- **Also hold weekly online office hours by TA- Yao Zhou, yaozhou@ufl.edu**

Course Website: Log in to CANVAS at <http://> ([Links to an external site.](#))

Course Communications: You can email the instructor or TA at email addresses given above or via email in Canvas. IF you email via Canvas a full record of it is kept – so this is preferred.

IMPORTANT: Please read this syllabus thoroughly!

Required Text [1]: 'Exploring Physical Geography', by Reynolds, Rohli, Johnson, Waylen and Francek, First Edition, **e-text** from McGraw Hill. Available access to sign up for this text can be found by logging into the course on Canvas, and under the 'Modules' link and then selecting 'Accessing the textbook' and this will walk you through the process. Cost is around \$90.00. This is a required e-text and you must purchase this as soon as you can. Once purchased you can access this text 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.

Note: *This is a digital textbook and costs \$85.00. I know some people prefer to read the paper version and you can request a print version (comes as loose-leaf text), for an additional \$25.00*

when you sign up. This paper copy is NOT required for this course – but if you find this a better learning tool for you, you may want to go ahead and order it.

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 with Review Quizzes and Homework Assignments: Every week there are assigned chapter readings from the etext with related 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 an assignment related to the chapter will also be assigned. These readings and assignments will be on MH Connect (via Canvas) for the text ‘Exploring Physical Geography’. In general the chapter readings and their assessments (review quizzes/’practice questions’) are worth 100 points, and the homework assignments are worth 25. 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.

Weather Blogs: Every week you will monitor the weather. In the first week when you begin weather forecasting – which will be Module 1 - you will pick 2 locations: 1 within the U.S. and 1 location outside the U.S. to monitor the weather for. Then you will create weekly weather forecast ‘blogs’ for these locations. [Specific instructions on how to do this are in Canvas under the ‘Weather Blog’ tab.] You will write your forecasts entries and submit them on Fridays, providing a forecast for the Saturday immediately following the due date through the following Saturday (i.e., for 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 for a total of 250 points. You must have completed this for every week once we start. Your weather ‘blog’ or ‘diary’ will be worth 250 points – this is a significant portion of your grade 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.

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 **Thursday 3rd August 2017**. 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. 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.

In general (not just for this course) when communicating online, you should always:

- Treat instructor with respect, even in email or in any other online communication
- Always use your professors’ proper title: Dr. or Prof., or if you in doubt use Mr. or Ms.
- Unless specifically invited, don’t refer to them by first name.
- Use clear and concise language
- Remember that all college level communication should have correct spelling and grammar
- Avoid slang terms such as “wassup?” and texting abbreviations such as “u” instead of “you”

- Use standard fonts such as Times New Roman and use a size 12 or 14 pt. font
- Avoid using the caps lock feature AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETTED AS YELLING
- Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons like :) or J
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken seriously or offensive
- Be careful with personal information (both yours and other's)

When you send an email to your instructor, or classmates, you should:

- Use a descriptive subject line
- Be brief
- Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them
- Avoid HTML in favor of plain text
- Sign your message with your name and return e-mail address
- Think before you send the e-mail to more than one person. Does everyone really need to see your message?
- Be sure you REALLY want everyone to receive your response when you click, "reply all"
- Be sure that the message author intended for the information to be passed along before you click the "forward" button

When posting on the Discussion Board in your class, you should:

- Make posts that are on topic and within the scope of the course material
- Take your posts seriously and review and edit your posts before sending
- Be as brief as possible while still making a thorough comment
- Always give proper credit when referencing or quoting another source
- Be sure to read all messages in a thread before replying
- Don't repeat someone else's post without adding something of your own to it
- Avoid short, generic replies such as, "I agree." You should include why you agree or add to the previous point Always be respectful of others' opinions even when they differ from your own
- When you disagree with someone, you should express your differing opinion in a respectful, non-critical way
- Do not make personal or insulting remarks

- Be open-minded

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
E-text Reading assignments with Quiz Assessments	100 each
Reading-based (e-text) weekly Homework Assignments	25 each
Class Activity Assignments (including Discussions)	25-50 each
Weekly Weather Blogs (5 weather @ 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)

AT A GLANCE:

Assigned Chapter Readings & Assessment Quizzes – ALWAYS due **Mondays at 11:50pm** (beginning on Week 2) – Week 1 has different deadlines due to it being the first week of class

Reading-based HW Assignments – ALWAYS due **Mondays at 11:50pm** (beginning on Week 2) – Week 1 has different deadlines due to it being the first week of class

Class Activities– ALWAYS due **Wednesdays at 11:50pm** (beginning on Week 2) – Week 1 has different deadlines due to it being the first week of class

Discussions- Due **Mondays or Wednesdays at 11:50pm** – varies – only a couple of these

Weather Blogs– ALWAYS due **Fridays at 11:50pm**, Forecast for following/upcoming week: (Saturday after Friday due date through next Saturday) – Modules 1-5, no weather Blog in final Module (Module 6)

Final Exam – **Thursday August 3rd**

➤ ***For detailed topics, by Module, see the Canvas Course***

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.

Course Summary:

Date	Details
Wed Jun 28, 2017	Module 1/Chapter 2 Reading and Review Quiz Due (ebook Connect) Homework Assignment Due (ebook Connect)
Fri June 30, 2017	Weather Blog #1
Mon July 3, 2017	Module 2/Chapter 3 Reading and Review Quiz Due (ebook Connect) Homework Assignment Due (ebook Connect)

Mon July 3, 2017	Introduce Yourself Activity
Wed Jul 5, 2017	Module 1 Activity: Weather Phenomenon ID
	Module 1 Discussion: Find Your Own Weather Image
	Module 2 Activity: Atmospheric Circulation
Fri July 7, 2017	Weather Blog #2
Mon Jul 10, 2017	Module 3/Chapter 4 Reading and Review Quiz Due (ebook Connect)
	Homework Assignment Due (ebook Connect)
Wed Jul 12, 2017	Module 3 Activity: Atmospheric Moisture
Fri Jul 14, 2017	Weather Blog #3
Mon Jul 17, 2017	Module 4/Chapter 5 Reading and Review Quiz Due (ebook Connect)
	Homework Assignment Due (ebook Connect)
Wed Jul 19, 2017	Module 4 Activity: Lifecycle of a Tornadoic Storm Event or a Hurricane
Fri Jul 21, 2017	Weather Blog #4
Mon Jul 24, 2017	Module 5/Chapter 6 Reading and Review Quiz Due (ebook Connect)
	Homework Assignment Due (ebook Connect)
Wed Jul 26, 2017	Module 5 Activity: Lost at Sea
Fri Jul 28, 2017	Weather Blog #5
Mon July 31, 2017	Module 6/Chapter 7 Reading and Review Quiz Due (ebook Connect)
	Homework Assignment Due (ebook Connect)
Wed Aug 2, 2017	Module 6 Activity: The Northwest Passage
Thursday Aug 3, 2017	FINAL EXAM