

FOUNDATIONS OF ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE I

ATMS 203

FALL 2024 – Post-Helene Revision

This is the first course in a two-course sequence designed for atmospheric sciences majors that introduces basic meteorological, mathematical, and computational concepts, skills, and tools that are critical for advanced study in the atmospheric sciences. Once you complete the two-part series, you will have an excellent foundation for success in your meteorological studies. Ask lots of questions and enjoy!



PROFESSOR

Dr. Christopher Godfrey

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Remote office hours: By appointment. Please send me an email to schedule a time. You may call my office (it bounces to my cell phone) during regular business hours. You may send me as many email messages as you wish. If my door is open at any other time, please drop in.

CLASS INFORMATION

Meeting times: R 3:15–5:45 p.m.

Location: **Online via Zoom**

Required text: None.

Website: <https://www.atms.unca.edu/cgodfrey/courses/atms203/>

» Please visit <https://weather.unca.edu> for a list of the student learning outcomes for the Department of Atmospheric Sciences.

COURSE SCHEDULE

This course schedule is approximate and subject to modifications. **I warned you.**

Date	Week	Topic	Lab Exercise Due Date
22 August 2024	1	Geography and the National Weather Service	29 August 2024
29 August 2024	2	Linux Fundamentals	5 September 2024
5 September 2024	3	Plots and Basic Statistics with Microsoft Excel	12 September 2024
12 September 2024	4	ArcMap and Map Projections	19 September 2024
19 September 2024	5	Meteorological Codes	31 October 2024
31 October 2024	6	Surface Station Models	7 November 2024
7 November 2024	7	Surface Map Analysis	14 November 2024
14 November 2024	8	Wind Components	21 November 2024
21 November 2024	9	Skew T-log p Diagrams and Sounding Parameters	5 December 2024
5 December 2024	10	Scientific Data Visualization	10 December 2024

GETTING QUESTIONS ANSWERED

I will be available to answer questions via Zoom during the regular class meeting time. I will remain there until either 5:45 p.m. or until the last of the initial synchronous attendees leaves the online meeting, whichever comes earlier. Otherwise, email is by far the best way to reach me and you will usually get a speedy reply. You may also schedule an appointment with me. Please don't hesitate to ask questions about class, other coursework, or the stresses of college life whenever the need arises.

EVALUATION

Your progress is evaluated based solely on the grades for each of the weekly exercises. There are no exams or quizzes. **Assignments are due via Moodle at 2:30 p.m.** on the date listed in the syllabus. The *only* exceptions to this rule are: (1) serious medical condition (illness or injury) of you or an immediate family member; (2) University excused absence; (3) jury duty; or (4) military orders. Only in such instances will a grade penalty be waived for a late assignment. I will accept completed assignments up to 24 hours late (2:30 p.m. the following day) for a 50% late penalty. *Assignments more than 24 hours late will not be graded.* In the event of an unforeseen circumstance that causes you to miss a due date, *you must notify me by phone or e-mail within 24 hours of the event.* Appropriate documentation should be attached to a late assignment. Please review the guidelines for submitting homework, available on Moodle, prior to submitting your first assignment.

GRADING

The grades that you earn on each of the **10** individual weekly exercises will each contribute equally to your final grade. I reserve the option to curve the final grades upward at my discretion. However, you are guaranteed *at least* the following based on your final score before applying any curve:

A	≥92.0%	C	72.0–77.9%
A-	90.0–91.9%	C-	70.0–71.9%
B+	88.0–89.9%	D+	68.0–69.9%
B	82.0–87.9%	D	60.0–67.9%
B-	80.0–81.9%	F	<60.0
C+	78.0–79.9%		

Final grades are not negotiable. If you see a problem with a grade, you may plead your case no later than 14 days from the date I return the assignment to the class. I do make mistakes. Under no circumstances will your grade be *lower* if you see me with a question.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Since the point of this or any class is to learn, you may collaborate on assignments, but *you absolutely must make sure that you hand in your own work and that you understand the material.* Copying your friend's answers will not only be obvious to me, but will result in both of you sharing the credit for that answer. For example, if you do a fantastic job on the assignment and then let three of your friends copy *any part of it*, you will each receive a maximum grade of 25% for the assignment. I have zero tolerance for academic misconduct and will deal with the problem by immediately filing charges through the regular University channels.

NOTES

University of North Carolina at Asheville is committed to making courses, programs and activities accessible to persons with documented disabilities. Students requesting accommodations and/or academic adjustments must do so through the Office of Academic Accessibility and may be required to provide supporting documentation. All information provided will remain confidential. For more information, please contact the Office of Academic Accessibility at (828) 232-5050 or academicaccess@unca.edu or visit them in the Academic Success Center.