

ATMS 223
Physical Climatology
Spring 2014

Professor : Dr. Chris Hennon
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Office Hours : Tues. 10-11, Wed. 10-11, Thurs. 2-3, or by appointment

Course Description

This course will examine the Earth's climate from a physical perspective. We will explore the individual systems that make up the climate system and connect each of them to the whole. We will also discuss the science of climate change, including a look at some of the computer models that predict it, evidence of its existence, and uncertainties.

Class Information

Reference Number : 10003
Days and Time : T R 4:35 am – 5:50 am
Building / Room : RRO 238 (Robinson Hall)

Textbook : Climate Dynamics, by Kerry H. Cook (2013)

Website : Moodle (all course materials, grades, forums)

Prerequisites : ATMS 103 or 113 (required, no waivers)

Grading Information

Your grade in this class is based on three (3) components: exams, homework exercises, and a project. Following is a brief description of each and the weight each carries towards your final grade:

- 1. Exams (2 Mid-terms (2 x 15%) and Final Exam (20%):** There will be three examinations during the course. . The final exam will be longer and will include material from the entire course. Details about exam formats will be given in class.
- 2. Homework Assignments (30%):** A significant portion of your grade will be from homework assignments. We will have approximately 8 assignments during the course. They will usually be more challenging than problems that would appear on an exam, but exam questions will be heavily borrowed from homework exercises. You are generally expected to do your own work. Use common sense when working with your classmates on homework assignments.
- 3. Project (20%):** This will involve real-life global climate modeling. More details about the project will be handed out during the first half of the semester.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based on the following scale:

92.5 – 100%	A	90 – 92.49%	A-		
87.5 – 89.9%	B+	82.5 – 87.49%	B	80 – 82.49%	B-
77.5 – 79.9%	C+	72.5 – 77.49%	C	70 – 72.49%	C-
67.5 – 69.9%	D+	60 – 67.49%	D		
< 60%	F				

Learning Outcomes

UNC Asheville and the Department of Atmospheric Sciences have developed a number of “learning outcomes”, or ideas and abilities that we believe you should have when you leave here. This course addresses several of these outcomes, which can be accessed on our department website at <http://www.atms.unca.edu/slos.shtml>.

Make Up Policy

Homework: Exercises must be in my possession by the due date/time. There will be a 50% penalty for assignments turned in up to 24 hours late. After that time you will not receive any credit. If you know you will not be there on the due date, please turn it in early.

Exams: Barring extraordinary circumstances, make up exams will not be allowed. If you miss an exam for what you believe to be a valid reason, you must provide written documentation in order for me to consider allowing you to make up the exam.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

University of North Carolina at Asheville is committed to making courses, programs and activities accessible to students with documented disabilities. Students requiring reasonable accommodations must register with the Disability Services Office by providing current diagnostic documentation. All information provided will remain confidential. For more information please contact Joshua Kaufman, Disabilities Coordinator, at (828) 232-5050 in the OneStop Student Services center or at <http://www2.unca.edu/disabilityservices/index.asp>

Academic Dishonesty

If you use any form of cheating on an exam or assignment, you will be subject to procedures outlined in section 8.3 of the UNCA Faculty Handbook. Possible outcomes include receiving a zero for the exam or assignment, dismissal from the course, and/or suspension/dismissal from the university.

Class Schedule

Please see the Moodle page for a full schedule. Although the schedule will change in some respects, the exam dates **WILL NOT** change, however, so mark your calendars!

Exam I	: Thursday, February 6
Exam II	: Thursday, March 20
Final Exam	: Tuesday, May 6, 3:00 – 5:30 pm, 238 RRO