

**ATMS 223**  
**Physical Climatology**  
Fall 2008

**Professor** : Dr. Chris Hennon  
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**Office Hours**: W 2:45 – 4:00, TR 1:45 – 3:00 and 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 : 10609  
Days and Time : M W F 10:25 am – 11:15 am  
Building / Room : KH 006 (Karpen Hall)

Textbook : Global Physical Climatology by Dennis Hartmann (1994), Academic Press

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

Prerequisites : ATMS 103

Laboratory : None

### 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.

EXAMS (10% Mid-terms x 2 + 15% Final = 35%)

There will be three examinations during the course. The mid-terms will have two sections: 1) Problem Solving, and 2) Short Answer. The final exam will be longer and will include material from the entire course. Details about exam formats will be given in class.

Exams will be graded on a standard scale – there will never be a curve.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS (45%)

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.

### PROJECT (20%)

This will be a team project that will involve real-life global climate modeling. More details about the project will be handed out during the first couple of weeks of class.

## Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based on the following scale:

|          |    |           |   |          |    |
|----------|----|-----------|---|----------|----|
| 87 – 89% | B+ | 92 – 100% | A | 90 – 92% | A- |
| 77 – 79% | C+ | 82 – 86%  | B | 80 – 82% | B- |
| 67 – 69% | D+ | 72 – 76%  | C | 70 – 72% | C- |
|          |    | 62 – 66%  | D |          |    |
|          |    | < 60%     | F |          |    |

## Make Up Policy

**Homework:** No make ups. 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. Make up exams may include an oral portion.

## 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: Wednesday, September 24

Exam II: Wednesday, October 29

Final Exam: Monday, December 15, 8:00 am, 006 KH