Course Catalog - Spring 2010

Atmospheric Sciences

100 ***Introduction to Meteorology*** credit: 3 hours.
Introduces the student to the basic concepts and principles of meteorology via the interpretation of weather maps and charts; uses current weather information to illustrate key concepts, emphasizes the physical atmospheric processes responsible for weather. By the end of the class students will be able to interpret and make basic weather forecasts as well as be able to explain basic atmospheric phenomena. Same as GEOG 100.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for a Physical Sciences, and Quant Reasoning II course.

120 ***Severe and Hazardous Weather*** credit: 3 hours.
Most extreme manifestations of weather and climate are analyzed in terms of their physical basis and their historical, economic and human consequences. Emphasis is placed on the interplay between technological advances, the evolution of meteorology as a science, and the impacts of extreme weather (winter storms, floods, severe thunderstorms, hurricanes, El Nino). Technological advances include satellites, weather radars and profilers, and computer models used for weather prediction. Same as ESES 120.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for a Physical Sciences course.

140 ***Climate and Global Change*** credit: 3 hours.
Introduces climate change and its interactions with the global environment; surveys the physical, chemical, biological and social factors contributing to global change; includes topics such as greenhouse warming, acid rain, ozone depletion, distinguishes anthropogenic influences and natural variability of the earth system; addresses societal impacts, mitigation strategies, policy options and other human responses to global change. Same as ESES 140.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for a Physical Sciences course.

199 ***Undergraduate Open Seminar*** credit: 1 to 5 hours.
Special topics each term. May be repeated.

201 ***General Meteorology*** credit: 3 hours.
Introduction to physical processes in the atmosphere, focusing on those relevant to weather and storms. Emphasizes quantitative problem solving. Topics include atmospheric structure, atmospheric thermodynamics, clouds, synoptic meteorology, weather forecasting, and storms. For students in atmospheric sciences, physics, mathematics, engineering, and other physical and natural sciences. Prerequisite: MATH 220 or MATH 221; credit or concurrent registration in MATH 231 and PHYS 211.

202 ***Soc Impacts Weather & Climate*** credit: 3 hours.
The study of how weather and climate phenomena have changed the shape of the United States, particularly with regard to traditionally underrepresented populations. Examines the complex relationship between weather and climate and society from both a physical and social perspective. Discussions will be focused around the physical principles driving the weather and climate and how they interact with all aspects of society.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for a UIUC Social Sciences course.

301 ***Atmospheric Thermodynamics*** credit: 3 hours.
Introduction to fundamental thermodynamic processes that occur in Earth's atmosphere. Defines, describes, and derives various thermodynamic concepts including (1) the conservation of energy, (2) laws of thermodynamics, (3) kinetic theory, (4) phase transitions of water, and (5) thermodynamic processes of the atmosphere. Applies thermodynamic concepts to atmospheric structure and stability, water phase transformations, and energy and mass transport within the atmosphere. Prerequisite: MATH 241 and PHYS 213.

302 ***Atmospheric Dynamics I*** credit: 3 hours.
Introduction to fundamental dynamical processes in the atmosphere through a descriptive and quantitative analysis of dynamical meteorology at the synoptic and global scale. Covers basic laws of fluid mechanics as applied to the atmospheric sciences, vorticity and circulation in 2-D and 3-D flows, boundary layer dynamics and friction, basic concepts of geophysical waves, and baroclinic instability. These topics will be covered both descriptively and mathematically with emphasis on computer representation of the fundamental processes governing atmospheric motion and application of theory to real-world examples. Same as PHYS 329. Prerequisite: ATMS 201, MATH 241 and PHYS 213; or consent of instructor.

303 ***Weather Analysis*** credit: 4 hours.
Conceptualizes the structure and dynamics of the atmosphere through interpretation and analysis of weather charts, time and cross sections, soundings, and forecast products. Students develop case studies of weather system structure, and participate in discussions of weather processes as depicted by weather maps. Depiction of atmospheric kinematic and dynamic processes on weather charts is emphasized. Students learn conceptual models of the structure of mid-latitude cyclones and convective weather systems, including cyclogenesis, frontogenesis, the process of storm intensification, occlusion and frontolysis. Prerequisite: ATMS 201 and credit or concurrent registration in MATH 241.

304 ***Atmospheric Radiation*** credit: 3 hours.
Introduction to the laws governing the propagation of electromagnetic radiation in the Earth's atmosphere. Topics include absorption, emission, and scattering of radiation, absorption and scattering properties of atmospheric constituents, the Sun as a source of radiation, the radiative transfer equation, and simple radiative balance models. Emphasis will be placed on the role of radiation in weather and climate, the description of atmospheric optical phenomena, and the application to remote sensing. Prerequisite: MATH 241 and PHYS 212.

305 ***Computing and Data Analysis*** credit: 3 hours.
Introduction to the statistical treatment and graphical representation of atmospheric sciences data, both in the space and time domain. Emphasis is placed on applications and real-world examples. Discusses relevant statistics, methods of interpolation and least squares, and linear and nonlinear correlations. Students gain experience using MATLAB for data analysis, develop theoretical skills for analyzing and modeling data, and perform virtual experiments and analyze real-world publicly available data sets. Prerequisite: MATH 241 or consent of instructor.

306 ***Cloud Physics*** credit: 4 hours.
Develops an understanding of microphysical processes occurring within clouds through use of in-situ observations, modeling, and theoretical studies; topics covered include nucleation, diffusional growth of water and ice particles, the warm rain process, the cold rain process (including riming, aggregation, graupel and hail), weather modification, and an introduction to radar meteorology. Prerequisite: ATMS 301.

312 ***Atmospheric Dynamics II*** credit: 4 hours.
Rigorous examination of the dynamical nature of various manifestations of the atmospheric circulation. Topics include the intrinsic effects of earth's rotation and stratification, vorticity and potential vorticity dynamics, various forms of boundary layer, wave dynamics (gravity waves and Rossby waves), geostrophic adjustment, cyclogenesis, frontogenesis and a potpourri of instability theories. Same as PHYS 330. Prerequisite: ATMS 301, ATMS 302.

313 ***Weather Forecasting*** credit: 4 hours.
Examines the tools and techniques of weather forecasting, with heavy emphasis on actual forecasting. Numerical models used to forecast weather are reviewed and compared. Forecasting using numerical, statistical and probabilistic forecasting techniques are studies. Forecasts of significant winter weather, convection, floods and other weather hazards are emphasized. Students learn the process behind Severe Weather Watches and Warnings, Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts, precipitation Type forecasts, Flood forecasts and forecasts of other significant weather. Prerequisite: ATMS 302, ATMS 303 or consent of instructor.

314 ***Mesoscale Processes*** credit: 4 hours.
Examination of the structure and dynamics of weather systems that occur on the mesoscale. The course first reviews what is meant by "mesoscale". Examines the structure and dynamics of both free and forced mesoscale circulations. Free circulations are those internal to the atmosphere, such as thunderstorms, mesoscale convective systems, squall lines, hurricanes, jet streaks, and fronts. Forced circulations are those tied to features external to the atmosphere, such as shorelines (the sea breeze), lakes (lake effect storms), and mountains. Prerequisite: ATMS 301, ATMS 302, ATMS 303, or consent of instructor.

405 ***Boundary Layer Processes*** credit: 4 hours.
Course will qualitatively and quantitatively describe atmospheric boundary layer characteristics and processes. The course will focus on the turbulent structure of the boundary layer and the factors that influence this structure over a variety of surfaces (e.g., soil, vegetation, marine) and under a variety of atmospheric conditions (e.g., stability, diurnal/nocturnal). This atmospheric layer is important to our daily lives because it is where humans live and it connects the small-scale fluxes of energy and mass to the large-scale atmospheric circulation. Prerequisite: ATMS 301, ATMS 302, and ATMS 304; or consent of instructor.

406 ***Tropical Meteorology*** credit: 4 hours.
Covers the mesoscale, synoptic scale and planetary scale motions in the tropical circulation. Emphasis will be on delineating the unique characteristics of tropical dynamics. Topics include Hadley circulation, Walter circulation, Julian-Madden oscillation, monsoons, easterly waves, equatorial waves, hurricanes, the quasi-biennial oscillation, El Nino and the Southern Oscillation. Prerequisite: ATMS 301 and ATMS 302, or consent of instructor.

410 ***Radar Meteorology*** credit: 4 hours.
Basic principles of radar and references to other ground based remote sensing systems, with emphasis on radar. Discusses principles of conventional and Doppler radar, data processing, and use of Doppler radar in meteorology. Emphasizes radar observations of meteorological phenomena, such as severe thunderstorms and wind shear. Students analyze data from national radar facilities. Prerequisite: ATMS 201 or consent of instructor.

411 ***Satellite Remote Sensing*** credit: 4 hours.
Review of the basic techniques used in satellite remote sensing of the Earth's surface and atmosphere, as well as other planets in our solar system. Topics include radiative transfer, scattering and absorption processes, the Sun, mathematics of inversion, atmospheric properties and constituents, surface properties, precipitation, radiation budgets, image classification, satellite technology and orbital configurations. Laboratory work on radiative transfer

modeling and satellite data analysis emphasized. All students participate in a team project that has novel and practical applications. Prerequisite: MATH 241 and PHYS 212.

420 ***Atmospheric Chemistry*** credit: 3 hours.
Same as CEE 447 and ENVS 450. See CEE 447.

421 ***Earth Systems Modeling*** credit: 4 hours.
Introduction to systems modeling with applications to the earth and environmental sciences. Basic systems concepts and systems thinking in the contexts of hydrological, climatic, geochemical, and other environmentally relevant systems. Students identify key processes and relationships in systems, represent these elements quantitatively in models, test the models, use them to predict system behavior, and assess the validity of the predictions. No special mathematical or computing background is required. Same as ESES 421, GEOG 421, GEOL 481, and NRES 422. Prerequisite: Junior, senior, or graduate standing in a natural science, geography, natural resources and environmental studies, or engineering.

425 ***Air Quality Modeling*** credit: 3 hours.
Same as CEE 445. See CEE 445.

444 ***Arctic Meteorology and Climate*** credit: 4 hours.
Introduction to the fundamental synoptic and dynamical processes of Arctic meteorology and climate as well as the interactions of the Arctic oceans and sea ice with the atmosphere. Prerequisite: ATMS 301 and ATMS 302, or consent of instructor.

447 ***Climate Change Assessment*** credit: 3 hours.
Provides students with first-hand experience with computer models used to study climate change and permits them to test hypotheses, develop scenarios, learn about the implications of various structures of the modeled system, and evaluate the climatic impacts of anthropogenic emissions. Students perform calculations and produce model scenarios using a web interface to our Integrated Science Assessment Model (ISAM).

448 ***Climate and Climate Change*** credit: 4 hours.
Course provides an understanding of contemporary climate issues. This is to be accomplished by a systematic examination of: (1) the Earth's climate system, (2) the instrumental, historical and geological observations of the present and past climates of the Earth, (3) the theories of the causes of past, present and potential future climates, (4) the development of mathematical climate models to quantitatively simulate and understand climate and climate change; and (5) the results of such climate model simulations. Prerequisite: ATMS 301, ATMS 302, and ATMS 304; or consent of instructor.

449 ***Biogeochemical Cycles*** credit: 4 hours.
Presents the key physical, biological, and chemical concepts of biogeochemical cycles central to understanding the causes of global changes in climate and air quality, focusing on an atmospheric sciences view of these cycles and their influences. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

468 ***Optical Remote Sensing*** credit: 3 hours.

Same as ECE 468 and ATMS 468. See ECE 468.

490 ***Individual Study*** credit: 1 to 4 hours.
Individual study or reading at an advanced undergraduate level in a subject not covered in normal course offerings. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. May not be used to satisfy requirements for an M.S. or Ph.D. degree in Atmospheric Sciences. Prerequisite: Consent of advisor and of staff member supervising work.

491 ***Topics in Atmospheric Sciences*** credit: 2 to 4 hours.
Special topics in atmospheric sciences at an advanced undergraduate level. May be repeated as topic varies to a maximum of 12 hours per term. Prerequisite: Advanced undergraduate standing and consent of instructor.

492 ***Capstone Undergrad Research*** credit: 4 hours.
All senior Atmospheric Sciences undergraduate majors are expected to take a Capstone Undergraduate Research experience. Students will either be engaged in an atmospheric science research project or will participate in an approved internship program with an agency involved in atmospheric science research or in meteorological operations. A research or internship project will be with a program at UIUC or with an allied organization. The student will need to first gain approval for their research or internship. No graduate credit. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 undergraduate hours. Prerequisite: Senior standing in Atmospheric Sciences.

500 ***Synoptic-Dynamic Meteorology*** credit: 4 hours.
Examines the observed behavior of the atmosphere through the application of physical and hydrodynamical principles to analyses of real meteorological data; develops concepts for studying atmospheric circulations, particularly extratropical cyclones and anticyclones. Laboratory work includes the development of diagnostic techniques suitable for a better understanding of the current weather.

501 ***Mesoscale Meteorology*** credit: 4 hours.
Basic concepts and ideas on atmospheric processes that occur on scales of motions from a few kilometers to a few hundred kilometers, a scale loosely classified by meteorologists as "mesoscale". After an introductory discussion of mesoscale classifications and attendant forecast problems, the course will introduce various mesoscale phenomena, internally generated circulations, externally forced circulations, and mesoscale instabilities. Covers all three fundamental aspects of mesoscale meteorology: observations, theory and modeling, with particular emphasis on the dynamics of precipitating mesoscale systems.

502 ***Numerical Fluid Dynamics*** credit: 4 hours.
Addresses numerical techniques for solving linear and nonlinear differential equations in initial value fluid flow problems. Students receive a thorough background in the principles used to evaluate numerical methods, the ability to critically interpret these methods as presented in the literature, and in particular, the practical application of these techniques in modeling multi-dimensional flow on high-performance computers. Temporal and directional splitting, finite differencing/volume methods, and adaptive nesting will be discussed. Same as CS 505 and CSE 566. Prerequisite: MATH 241 or MATH 380 or consent of instructor.

504 ***Physical Meteorology*** credit: 4 hours.
Examines the physical processes that occur in the atmosphere. Topics include atmospheric thermodynamics, cloud physics and atmospheric radiation.

505 ***Weather Systems*** credit: 4 hours.
Examination of the structure and dynamics of mid-latitude weather systems, integrating weather observations, with the current state of dynamic theory, numerical weather prediction models, and the physical principles of atmospheric thermodynamics, cloud and precipitation physics, and radiation to the problems of weather analysis and forecasting. Students will be required to give weather forecast briefings to develop an understanding of the weather forecasting process, and gain experience in communicating weather forecasts. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

510 ***Precipitation Physics*** credit: 4 hours.
Develops an understanding of precipitation processes through cloud observations, microphysics, dynamics, and comprehensive theoretical models; includes growth by condensation, coalescence, and riming; and studies ice crystals, hail, and weather modification. Prerequisite: ATMS 504 or consent of the instructor.

511 ***Atmospheric Radiation*** credit: 4 hours.
Physical concepts and various methods of analysis of radiation scattering by atmospheric molecules, particulates, and clouds; infrared radiative transfer in a stratified inhomogeneous atmosphere; radiation and ozone photochemistry in the stratosphere; and remote temperature and composition sensing techniques using satellite radiation data. Prerequisite: ATMS 504 or consent of the instructor.

512 ***Clouds and Climate*** credit: 4 hours.
The following topics are addressed to examine the role of clouds in the climate system: aerosols and aerosol cloud interactions, direct, semi-direct and indirect aerosol effects, in-situ measurements of clouds, properties of liquid and ice clouds, precipitation mechanisms and representation in models, scattering by cloud particles and model representations, remote sensing of cloud properties, and representation of clouds in climate models. Prerequisite: ATMS 504 or consent of instructor.

520 ***General Circulation*** credit: 4 hours.
Reviews the observed general circulation of the earth's atmosphere; discusses the balance requirements of mass, momentum, and energy conservation; illustrates, by means of mathematical models and laboratory physical models, the important processes which determine the earth's and other planets' general circulation. Prerequisite: ATMS 500 and ATMS 504; or consent of the instructor.

521 ***Advanced Atmospheric Dynamics*** credit: 4 hours.
Introduces the language and methods of modern atmospheric dynamics, covering the areas of atmospheric waves, dynamical instabilities, and wave-mean flow interactions. Emphasis is on gaining a physical understanding of atmospheric motions from planetary down to gravity wave scales, and on solving dynamical problems that arise in research. Prerequisite: ATMS 500 or consent of the instructor.

530 ***Global Atmospheric Modeling*** credit: 4 hours.
Course provides the student with training in the development, testing and application of physically based climate models. Physically based mathematical models of the earth's climate are used to study the causes of the ice ages which have occurred within a period of 100,000 years during the last two million years, the predictability of climate on the timescale of 1 to 3 months with particular attention to the worldwide El Nino phenomenon, and project the potential climatic consequences of the increasing concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Same as CSE 568. Prerequisite: ATMS 500 and ATMS 504; or consent of instructor.

535 ***Aerosol Sampling and Analysis*** credit: 4 hours.
Same as CEE 545, ENVS 545, and ME 516. See CEE 545.

563 ***Tchg Higher Ed Earth & Env Sci*** credit: 2 hours.
Introduction of curriculum development, pedagogy and teaching at the university level with special focus on earth sciences and environmental sciences. Course content is structured around the development of a teaching portfolio by each students. Topics covered include: learning styles, syllabus writing and course development, teaching methods, best science teaching practices, incorporating science research in the classroom, technology in the classroom, developing a teaching philosophy, assessment and evaluation. Students will participate in microteaching exercises and develop a teaching portfolio. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

571 ***Professional Development*** credit: 1 hours.
Aimed at professional development in the atmospheric sciences so that students recognize the importance of breath of knowledge, effective oral and written scientific communication, and other skills they will need as professionals. Approved for S/U grading only. May be repeated to a maximum of 2 hours. Prerequisite: Graduate student in Atmospheric Sciences or consent of instructor.

590 ***Individual Study*** credit: 2 to 8 hours.
Individual study or reading in a subject not covered in normal course offerings. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

591 ***Atmospheric Sciences Seminar*** credit: 0 hours.
Seminar on topics of current interest. Approved for S/U grading only. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

596 ***Non-Thesis Research*** credit: 4 hours.
Non-thesis research in the Atmospheric Sciences. Approved for S/U grading only. Restricted to students in the non-thesis option.

597 ***Special Topics in Atmos Sci*** credit: 0 to 4 hours.
Lecture course in topics of current interest; subjects such as tropical meteorology, aerosol physics, and geophysical fluid dynamics will be covered in term offerings on a regular basis. Approved for both letter and S/U grading. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

599 ***Thesis Research*** credit: 0 to 16 hours.
Section A: For master's degree candidates; Section B: For doctoral degree candidates. Approved for S/U grading only. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.