

**Climate Change Ecology
Geography 404
Three credits
M/W/F 9:30-10:20 am
McClure 206**

I. Course Information

In addition to this syllabus, the main source of course information is the course web site, http://webpages.uidaho.edu/~jhicke/climchecol_spr_15.html.

Instructor

Dr. Jeffrey Hicke
McClure Hall 307C
208-885-6240
jhicke@uidaho.edu
Office hours: Mondays, 12-1 pm; Fridays, 10:30-11:30 am; or by appointment

Readings

Text: *Climate Change Biology* by Lee Hannah, 2011, available from UI bookstore.
Additional readings will be assigned.
Please come to class having already read the assignments.

Goals

The learning outcomes of this class are to:

- 1) understand the mechanisms by which climate change affects plants, animals, and ecosystems;
- 2) learn about the historical (past) impacts of climate change;
- 3) describe the future impacts of climate change given projections; and
- 4) understand the effect ecosystems have on future climate change.

Prerequisites: Physical geography; global climate change; ecology; environmental science; or permission of instructor

II. Grading

Grades will be assigned based on the following:

Homework	20%
Midterm 1	18%
Midterm 2	18%
Final exam	22%
Project	20%
Participation/effort	2%

Homework: There will be several homework sets to give you experience with important concepts. See web site for assignments and due dates. Homework is due at the beginning of class. Late assignments will have 33% of the points deducted for each day late (i.e., homework turned in after class will have 33% of the points deducted; the next day, 66% of the points deducted; the following and subsequent days, 100% of the points deducted). If you have questions about an assignment, please contact me.

Exams: Midterm 2 is not cumulative; the final is cumulative.

Project: For the class project, you will select a topic you are interested in within climate change ecology, investigate the topic, and give a presentation. You will also evaluate the presentations of the other students. See additional information provided separately.

Participation/effort: Points will be awarded for attending class; participating in discussion by asking/answering questions; turning in homework and project assignments on time; etc.

Strategies for doing well in this course:

1. Attend class
2. Take notes (print out and mark up PPT slides before class, follow outline on “chalkboard”, note discussion questions)
3. Study in an organized way (review notes, identify most important concepts)
4. Complete all homework assignments (will help with exams)
5. Exam questions will be drawn from material presented in class; text and readings assigned in class; discussion questions in class; homework; previous exams in this semester
6. Take advantage of extra credit opportunities
7. Visit me for any questions

III. Tentative schedule (subject to change based on progress)

Weeks	Topics	Readings
1-5	introduction, peer review, review of climate change, basic ecology, species range shifts	Chapters 1-5, supplemental
Wednesday, February 18 (subject to change)	Midterm 1	
6-11	phenology, ecosystem/habitat change, methods for predicting future impacts	Chapter 6-11, supplemental
Wednesday, April 1 (subject to change)	Midterm 2	
12-17	feedbacks to climate change/mitigation, adaptation, student presentations	Chapters 12-18, supplemental
Tuesday, May 12, 10 am-noon	Final (same room)	

IV. Course policies

Classes and attendance

You are responsible for reading the assigned reading before class, attending class, and participating in the discussion. You are also responsible for knowing the due dates for all assignments, papers, and presentations. I will be emailing the class regularly; please ensure you check your uidaho email account.

Please keep your cell phone put away while in class. Laptops are permitted for note-taking only. If you find yourself distracted by others' use of phones or laptops, please let me know.

Civility

Please be respectful of others in the classroom. Please do not talk or whisper in class as this is distracting to me and other students. Use appropriate language; allow others to talk; be courteous and civil.

Exams/homework assignments

You are welcome to ask for a re-grade of an exam or homework assignment. Please do so within one week of the exam's or assignment's due date.

I allow makeup exams in only the most extreme situations (e.g., dire sickness), and I require written verification in any situation (e.g., note from doctor). Early exams will only be accommodated for "once in a lifetime" events (subject to approval), and requests must be made four weeks in advance.

Academic honesty

Academic honesty is covered in the Article II of UI Student Code of Conduct (<http://www.uidaho.edu/DOS/judicialaffairs/studentcodeofconduct>). Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. Your work must be your own. Do not copy or plagiarize the work of others. If you are caught, you will receive no credit for that work, whether it is a homework assignment, an exam, or a project, and you will be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. Depending on the seriousness of the plagiarism or cheating offense, you could be expelled from the university.

Reasonable Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have documented temporary or permanent disabilities. All accommodations must be approved through Disability Support Services located in the Idaho Commons Building, Room 306. Please meet with either Gloria or Angela at the beginning of each semester to set up accommodations for the semester so that you may notify your instructor(s) early in the semester regarding accommodation(s) needed for the course. Disability Support services can be contacted at 885-7200, email at dss@uidaho.edu, and via their website at www.access.uidaho.edu or www.webs.uidaho.edu/aap.

Concealed Carry of Firearms (recommended text from UI)

The University of Idaho bans firearms from its property with only limited exceptions. One exception applies to persons who hold a valid Idaho enhanced concealed carry license, provided those firearms remain concealed at all times. If an enhanced concealed carry license holder's firearm is displayed, other than in necessary self-defense, it is a violation of University policy. Please contact local law enforcement (call 911) to report firearms on University property.