Global Climate Change  
Geography 313/513  
Three credits  
T/Th 9:30-10:45 am  
McClure 209

I. Course Information

In addition to this syllabus, the main source of course information is the course web site, http://webpages.uidaho.edu/~jhicke/courses/globalclimch_fall14/index.html.

Instructor
Dr. Jeffrey Hicke
McClure Hall 307C
885-6240
jhicke@uidaho.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11-noon; Wednesdays, 2-3 pm; or by appointment

Readings


Additional outside readings will be assigned and distributed via email and/or web site.

I will generally follow the Kitchen textbook, but will supplement with concepts, examples, and additional topics drawn from a number of sources.

Please come to class having already read the assignments.

Goals

Global climate change is one of the key issues of our time. In this class, we will learn about the science behind climate change, projections about future climate change, its impacts to humans and natural systems, and options to adapt to and mitigate future climate change. You will understand and become comfortable communicating to others why climate change is happening, what future climate is expected, and what we as a society can do about it.

Course goals and student learning objectives: At the end of the course, students will understand
  1) the physical mechanisms and drivers of recent climate change, including how it is different from climate change in the distant past;
  2) expected patterns of future climate change and the reasons for such patterns;
  3) recent impacts of climate change as well as expected future impacts;
  4) options for adapting to and mitigating future climate change.

Prerequisites: GEOG 100 or ENVS 101 is recommended but not required.
II. Tentative schedule (subject to change based on progress)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>introduction, scientific method, observations, energy/radiation, paleoclimate</td>
<td>Chapters 1-6, supplemental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 30</strong></td>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-11</td>
<td>carbon cycle, climate modeling, climate projections, impacts</td>
<td>Chapter 7, supplemental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, November 6</strong></td>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-16</td>
<td>politics, adaptation, mitigation, action</td>
<td>Chapters 8-10, supplemental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, December 18, 7:30-9:30 am</strong></td>
<td>Final</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. Grading

You will be responsible for material covered in class.

Grades will be assigned based on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Undergrads</th>
<th>Grad students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class project</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>11% (includes discussion of journal articles)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Homework:** There will be several homework assignments to give you experience with important concepts. Homework is due in 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.

**Class project** will be a group-based development of a poster about climate change that is accessible to the general public and presentation at an external venue. More information forthcoming.

**Class participation** will be based on class attendance, effort, preparation, asking questions, answering questions.

**Graduate students** will have additional assignments and questions on homework assignments and exams. In addition, we (grad students only) will meet about every other week at another time (TBD) in which each graduate student will lead a discussion about a journal article of their choice on climate change.
Strategies for doing well in this course:

1. Attend class
2. Take notes (follow outline on “chalkboard”, print out and mark up PPT slides, note discussion questions)
3. Study in an organized way
4. Complete all homework assignments (will help with exams)
5. Visit me for any questions

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 put away your cell phone 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. Use appropriate language; allow others to talk; be courteous and civil.

Missed exams

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.