

Weather & Climate

Course Syllabus

General Information

Instructor: Cameron Craig
Office: Physical Science 3012
Contact: cdcraig@eiu.edu
Websites: [Desire2Learn](#)
Office hours: MWF: 10-11, MW: 2-3, or by Appointment (contact via email)

Course Information

Course Motto: "Sun, Sun, Without the Sun, There is No Weather Fun!" ~CDCraig

Objective: This course will provide you with an awareness of how our skies function and influence our lives. Better understanding promotes the future protection of the environment for future generations.

Course Outline: Complete a weather observation project. Learn historical aspects of meteorology and climatology. Learn detailed concepts of atmospheric processes. Learn basic forecasting. Learn about severe weather and climate change. Analyze real-time weather conditions. Increase pattern recognition for lifelong skills.

Textbooks: >Lutgens and Tarbuck. *The Atmosphere: An Introduction to Meteorology*.
>Craig. *Explore the Skies: Concepts in Atmospheric Science*.

Lab Book: In house copy is purchased from the instructor for \$10. Bring exact cash or write a check payable to GTU to the second lab session.

Attendance: Required. No make-up work will be accepted.

Lab Attendance: Required. No make-up work will be accepted.

Athletes: All make-up work must be completed within one week or receive a 0.

US Map Quiz: All students will take the US Map Quiz. You will have two opportunities to take the quiz. You must successfully identify all 50 states for credit. If you get 50, you will not have to take the quiz again. If you do not get all 50, you will have one more opportunity to take it. You must get all 50 or total points will be 0.

Bonus: Each student will have one, 15-bonus point opportunity. Watch any *Tempestas et Caelum* Productions documentary within the course of the semester and write a one-page, single-spaced critical thinking essay about the documentary. Hand in your

finished essay on the day of the Final. No essays will be accepted after this date and the essays cannot be submitted via email. Only a hard copy will be accepted. If a documentary is viewed within class, the production cannot be used as bonus.

Etiquette: Success in this course will be based your ability alone. Ask questions when you do not understand a concept. Contact the instructor for further help. Take notes during lecture and read course materials. Respect your classmates and instructor. Disrespect results in a 100-point reduction of your total point score. All technology, except the use of laptops, are not permitted during the class session. Technology includes text messaging, audio/video devices, and mobile phones. Students are given 100 points at the start of the semester. If you use technology just once in the classroom, you forfeit all 100 points.

Special Needs: Students with special needs must be registered with the appropriate campus office for consideration. Please inform and present the necessary documents to the instructor at the start of the semester.

Examinations: The format of the examinations will be multiple choice, true/false, either/or, matching, and diagram reconstruction.

Project: The Weather Observation Project is an important component of this course. The due date of the project is November 2, 2012 and is strictly enforced. No late projects will be accepted. Grading information for the project is included in the separate requirements handout and considered part of this syllabus.

Due Dates: All work for the semester is to be completed by the due dates within the semester. No additional work or extra credit will be given after the semester ends to change your grade. The final grade for the course is final.

Grading Information

Grading: The course will use the university standard grading scale (i.e. 90%, 80%, etc). Grades are posted to Desire2Learn.

Components: The grade distribution listed below will be used in determining the grade you earn for the course.

| Component | Quantity | Value | Total |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Examinations (including the Final) | 4 | 100 | 400 |
| Laboratory Quiz | 13 | 15 | 195 |
| Weather Observation Project | 1 | 100 | 100 |
| US Map Quiz | 1 | 50 | 50 |
| Technology Use (subtracted) | 1 | 100 | 100 |
| | | Grand Total | 845 |