

Spring 2011 Syllabus for Geography 455: Societal Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change (3)

Consequences of human causes, mitigation and adaptations, community resilience strategies, and policy implications to human impacts of global climate change. Concentration on social science issues including opportunities and constraints for resilience and adaptation to global climate change.

COURSE LOGISTICS AND MEETING TIMES

149 TLC
T/TH 11:00AM – 12:15PM
01/13/2011-5/12/2011



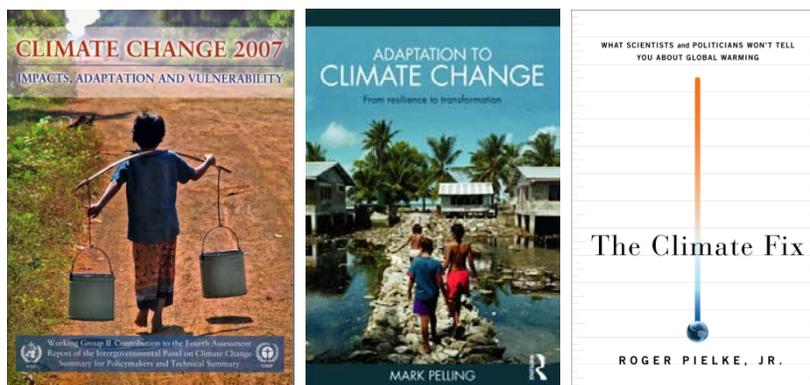
PROFESSOR

Dr. Tim G. Frazier
405B McClure Hall
Telephone: (208) 885-6238
Email: tfrazier@uidaho.edu (Do not expect a response to email after 10 pm on weekdays or on weekends)
Office Hours: by Appointment (cause no one ever comes)

Cell phones are not to be used during class! Laptops one chance for note taking!

TEXTBOOKS

The required textbooks for Geography 455 are: **Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**, **Adaptation to Climate Change: From Resilience to Transformation** (Mark Pelling), **The Climate Fix: What Scientists and Politicians Won't Tell You About Global Warming** (Roger A. Pielke). There will be additional book chapters and journal articles posted on Blackboard that you are also responsible for reading.



Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is available online at: <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-wg2.htm>

The lecture topics and readings can be found in the *Course Calendar*.

All readings must be completed prior to the class discussion of the material.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The topic of Climate Change impacts on society is an incredibly salient issue for our world today. It appears that projected impacts from Climate Change are becoming visible on the landscape to the point that they have begun to capture the attention of local and national decision makers. Much of the Climate Change research within the discipline of geography focuses on impacts from a human perspective and is increasingly recognized as one of the most critical areas of future Climate Change research. Climate Change societal impacts depend largely on the vulnerability of people, communities, and their economic condition. Social science also plays an important role in evaluating alternative mitigation and adaptation strategies. In some cases, this means lessening the physical stimulus through such measures as flood control projects, while in others it means guarding life and property through self-protection or insurance. Climate Change and its impacts raises important issues for individuals, private businesses, public utilities, government agencies, NGOs, and communities.

This course will provide students with a general overview of the geophysical processes associated with Climate Change, an overview of historical and current global climate policy, discussions concerning the implications of this historical and current global climate policy, and an introduction to social science principles and methodologies to address critical questions relating to managing the impacts of Climate Change through mitigation and adaptation. Although the focus of this course will be on economics, planning, and geography, this is a multidisciplinary topic, and so readings and lectures will also incorporate some critical aspects of natural and other social sciences.

The course sessions will consist of a short number of lectures by the instructor, presentations by students and guest speakers, and various multi-media and classroom exercises designed to illustrate and reinforce content covered in this course. There is a fair amount of reading for this course and it will be essential that you keep up with the reading as the class progresses. If you are not inclined to read the course material, please feel free to drop the class.

PARTICIPATION

This course will be highly participatory and as such your attendance is critical not only to your individual performance but to the overall quality of everyone's learning experience. There will be many opportunities for you to participate in classroom discussion and to express your opinion on various topics as such it is important for everyone to be respectful of the opinions of others especially if they are different from your own. In any class there are bound to be individuals with different viewpoints about issues. It is up to the discretion of the professor as to what constitutes civil classroom behavior during discussion. Please feel free to express any opinion you may have but bullying of classmates in any manner during this course will not be tolerated.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND GRADES

Students are responsible for the following work (with percentages of their grades listed below):



Term Paper	(50%)
Participation	(50%)

Grading

Evaluation of grades will be based on weekly preparation (50%) and a term paper (50%)

Weekly preparation (50% total)

- (1) *Written reaction notes.* Reaction notes (one to two pages) should be emailed to me prior to class or brought to class. Notes must be completed **every week** in response to each week’s reading assignment. The reaction notes are intended to make you think critically about the content of the readings. They do not need to be structured as formal papers. They are intended as a way for you to get your ideas about the readings down on paper and to help you to identify questions or issues that you would like to pursue during our class discussion. Credit for the reaction notes will be given as pass (you did it) or fail (you didn’t do it).
- (2) *Active participation in seminar discussions.* At the beginning of each weekly meeting, each seminar participant will contribute a question or issue pertaining to the readings. These will be recorded on the board and will structure discussion for the week.
- (3) *In class exercises.* Throughout the semester there will be additional exercises such as focus groups, debates, & student led discussions that will also require student participation.

Term Paper (50% total)

Each person will prepare a 20-page paper on a topic relating to Climate Change and society of their choosing provided it meets instructor approval. Details on the paper assignment will be provided in class at a later date. We will devote some class time approximately every third week to discussion of progress on student papers.

Drafts of the papers will be due on **April 21st**.

Final papers will be due on **May 13th**.

Papers will be presented in class beginning **April 21st**.

All grades in Geography 455 are based on the following percentages:

GRADE SCALE

<i>Letter Grade</i>	<i>% Range</i>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F (The Flag)	Below 60



ASSIGNMENTS

Policy for Late Assignments. Late assignments will be penalized, so get in the habit of turning them in on time! The term paper is the only assignment I will accept late. If the paper is turned in after the due date it will be accepted for grading with a **10%** per day penalty (weekends count as one day). No assignment will be accepted if it is more than 2 weeks late. If the exercise is not handed in by this time, you will receive a grade of zero. It is your responsibility to ensure your assignments reach the instructor. Information for specific assignments will be provided in class and posted on BlackBoard when specific exercises are assigned.

Accommodating Disabilities. The University of Idaho encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. Contact the instructor promptly at the outset of the course if you need any type of accommodation.

COURSE ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Copying someone else's work verbatim without citation is plagiarism and will not be tolerated.

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic 'F' for the assignment and/or the course grade, as well as a possible disciplinary action by the University. This consists of cheating on exams or plagiarism on papers, or misconduct on any other assignments. Plagiarism includes using another author's work as your own or fabricating information or citations in your paper.

The Professor will levy penalties for academic dishonesty in accordance with published university policies. For more information about what constitutes academic dishonesty please read:

<http://www.webs.uidaho.edu/fsh/2300.html#ARTICLE%20II>

BLACKBOARD

Course material such as, lectures and additional assigned readings will be available on BlackBoard each week. This material can be accessed at: <http://www.blackboard.uidaho.edu> (Login: UI Account & Password) (same as Novell). The user forum on BlackBoard is available for students to answer each other's questions regarding course content. Please note: This is not the appropriate place to ask questions regarding grades. Placing PowerPoint lectures and other course information on BlackBoard is not done so with the intent to facilitate missing class. PLEASE do not attempt to use this material as a substitute for attending class.

