

**Global Climate Change
Geography 313/513
Fall 2018
T/Th 9:30-10:45, McClure Hall Room 209**

I. Course Information

In addition to this syllabus, the main source of course information is the course BbLearn web site.

Instructor

Dr. Jeffrey Hicke
McClure Hall 307C
208-885-6240
jhicke@uidaho.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11-noon;
Wednesdays, 1-2 pm; or by appointment

Grader

Rich Gibbs
McClure Hall 215
email: TBD

Office Hours: Mondays, 11-noon;
Thursdays, 9:30-10 am; or by appointment

Readings

Text: Kitchen, David. 2013. Global Climate Change: Turning Knowledge Into Action. Prentice Hall.

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.

Goals

Global climate change is one of the key issues of our time. Warming, droughts, flooding, sea level rise, and ocean acidification are happening now and are expected to continue in the future. Such changes will affect human and natural systems in myriad ways.

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. The focus is on the physical science of climate change, but you will be introduced to biological and societal topics as well. 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 climate change;
- 2) observations of recent climate change;
- 2) expected patterns of future climate change and the reasons for such patterns;
- 3) impacts of climate change;
- 4) options for adapting to and mitigating future climate change.

Prerequisites: GEOG 100 or ENV5 101 or similar is recommended but not required.

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

Weeks	Topics	Readings
1-5	introduction, scientific method, observations, energy/radiation, paleoclimate	Chapters 1-6, supplemental
about Week 5 (October 9-11)	Midterm 1	
6-11	politics, climate modeling, climate projections, impacts, carbon cycle, energy	Chapter 8, 7, supplemental
about Week 12 (November 6-8)	Midterm 2	
12-16	adaptation, mitigation, action	Chapters 9-10, supplemental
Monday, December 10, 8-10 am	Final	

III. Grading

You will be responsible for material covered in class.

Grades will be assigned based on the following:

	Undergrads	Grads
Homework	22%	15%
Project/paper	20%	19%
Midterm 1	18%	18%
Midterm 2	18%	18%
Final exam	22%	21%
Discussion of journal articles	N/A	9%

Grades will be assigned based on a curve. Splits among grades will be determined at the end of the semester, but I expect that that top 15-20% will receive As, and between 1/3 and 1/2 of the class will get As and Bs. Note that although unusual, it's possible that students receiving higher than a 90 will not receive an A.

Homework: There will be 4-5 homework assignments to give you experience with important concepts. Late assignments will have one letter grade deducted for each day late. If you have questions about an assignment, please contact me.

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

Class project: You will complete a class project. More information about this project will be available within the first two weeks of class.

Graduate students will have additional assignments and questions on homework assignments and exams. In addition, we (grad students only) will meet several times at another time (TBD) in which each graduate student will lead two discussions about a journal article of their choice on climate change.

Strategies for doing well in this course:

1. Before class, read the chapter or other material, print out course notes outline and PPT slides, then markup/annotate during class
2. Attend class; take notes following instructor's outline
3. Study in an organized way (review notes, identify most important concepts)
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. 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); requests must be made four weeks in advance, and the student will take the exam before the rest of the class.

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, and properly cite others' work. 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 the Center for Disability Access and Resources located in the Bruce M. Pitman Center, Suite 127 in order to notify your instructor(s) as soon as possible regarding accommodation(s) needed for the course.

Phone: 208-885-6307, email: cdar@uidaho.edu, website: www.uidaho.edu/current-students/cdar

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.