

METR 1014-014
Introduction to Weather and Climate Laboratory
Fall 2009
Thursdays 3:00-4:50 pm SEC P207

Instructor

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Office Hours: By appointment (most of the time I'm in my office)

Textbooks and Lab Materials

Explorations in Meteorology: A Lab Manual

Essentials of Meteorology: An Invitation to the Atmosphere (5th edition)

Please bring both the lab manual and textbook to every class. The textbook contains valuable supplementary material for some of the labs. You will also need to bring a pencil, calculator, and colored pencils to each lab.

We will also be using labs from a different source. These will be posted on the class website on Desire2Learn at <https://learn.ou.edu>. I will inform you of when you need to check the website for these additional labs. It will be your responsibility to print out these additional labs and bring them to class as they come up during the semester.

Lab Description

Laboratory exercises serve to complement material covered in the lecture portion of this course. The material presented here will not be exactly the same as what is presented in lecture but will still show up on exams, so make sure you are paying attention and understand what's being covered. Lab is designed to engage a hands-on learning environment and enhance your understanding of basic meteorology concepts. The lab schedule and list of topics is given on the last page of this syllabus.

Grading

Lab exercises 90%

Lab quizzes 10%

Your final lab grade will account for 25% of your total grade in the course. The labs will be graded for the most part on accuracy, so just putting forth the effort to answer the questions will not be enough to get full credit. You may lose points for sloppy or illegible work, so please be neat when completing your lab assignments.

There will be a total of 15 labs in this course. Your grades for each lab will be posted on the class webpage on <https://learn.ou.edu>. I will be determining grades based on the amount of points earned for each lab. However, not all labs are worth equal amounts of points.

There will be 5 lab quizzes throughout the semester. You will be informed one week before of the date of the quiz, which will be given in lab. We will discuss what is being covered on each quiz in the class prior to the class in which the quiz will be given. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Attendance

Attendance in lab session is MANDATORY. It is important for you to be here, doing the activities, in order to reinforce lecture material. I will not take attendance at the beginning of class, but will know who is there by who turns in their lab. I will NOT accept labs turned in by a friend. In order to turn in a lab you must hand it in yourself in the class period in which it is due. DO NOT DO THE LAB BEFORE CLASS! If you attempt to turn in a lab that you have started working on or completed before class I will automatically assume you have cheated on that particular lab and you will receive a zero on that lab.

If you need to miss a lab, you must have a VALID reason (athletic, religious, illness). If you know in advance you will be missing a lab, inform me AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, but no less than a week prior to the missed class. Please don't come to class sick! I don't want your germs, and neither does anyone else! If you are sick the day of lab, let me know BEFORE the time class starts. If you have not emailed me before class starts stating you are sick, you will be unable to make up the lab. If you email me before class that you are sick, the next time you come to lab you MUST have a note from Goddard or another healthcare facility in order to arrange a makeup for the lab. If an outstanding circumstance comes up unexpectedly, come talk to me and we can work out a solution.

Lab Structure

We will start promptly at 3:00 pm. Please make your best efforts to be on time, as coming in late disrupts class. Be sure to come prepared with all of your lab materials to each class. It may also benefit you to read over the lab before coming to class. I will give a brief introduction to each lab before you start on your assignment. This is a good time to ask questions if you have any.

Labs are to be completed in class only. The two hours allotted to class should be sufficient to complete each lab, so make sure to use your time effectively. If the majority of the class does not complete the lab by the end of class, it will be dealt with as needed.

Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

The University of Oklahoma is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for all students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who require accommodations in this course are requested to speak with the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services prior to receiving accommodations in this course. The Office of Disability Services is located in Goddard Health Center, Suite 166. You may contact the office at 405-325-3852 (voice) or 405-325-4173 (TDD).

Academic Misconduct

Cheating will not be tolerated and will be reported. No exceptions, no excuses. Those found cheating will be penalized under the OU Academic Misconduct Code, which can be found at <http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity>. In short, if you cheat, expect to be removed from the course and to receive an F for the course.

Working together is highly encouraged in this class. Using other students as a resource is a great way to learn in a field such as meteorology. However, the work you submit **MUST** be your own work. Any student caught copying off another student will be penalized.

Week	Lab (parenthesis indicate lab number in manual)
1	No Lab!!
2	North American Geography (1)
3	Dimensions and Units
4	Earth-Atmosphere System (2)
5	Radiation and Energy Transfer (3)
6	Daily Temperature Cycle (4)
7	Atmospheric Moisture (5)
8	Atmospheric Motion
9	Air Masses and Fronts (6)
10	Surface Map Analysis (7)
11	Mid-Latitude Cyclones
12	Atmospheric Stability
13	Thunderstorms and Tornadoes
14	Thanksgiving—no lab!! ☺
15	Hurricane Tracks and Forecasts (13)
16	COMET Climate Module (more info on this to come!)