

Syllabus

Weather and Climate Laboratory
METR 1014-012
Fall 2010
Monday, 6:30 – 8:20 PM, SEC P0207

Laboratory Instructor: Sean Arms, PhD student

Office: Bedrock Cafe, SEC

E-mail: caver_sean@ou.edu

Office hours: Mondays, 1-3 PM

My job as your Teaching Assistant is to help you understand the presented material. That said, I can't help if you don't ask me questions. So, please stop by my office if you need something clarified. Also, the coffee is great! I do have a regular office in SEC if you need to discuss matters that you wish to keep private (please don't hesitate to ask!).

Course Description:

This lab will cover a wide range of topics about weather and climate and serves as a complement to the material covered in the METR 1014 lectures.

Course Goals: 1) To gain an understanding of how material presented is used in real world applications and 2) to gain hands-on experience using some of the methods and techniques used in weather and climate studies.

Course Materials:

Text: C. Donald Ahrens, *Essentials of Meteorology: An Invitation to the Atmosphere*, (We will not be directly using the textbook in class, but you should bring it since it is a valuable reference text for your lab assignments)

Laboratory Manual: Oklahoma Climatological Survey, *Explorations in Meteorology*

Other lab Supplies: colored pencils, calculator

Laboratory Expectations:

Each student is required to do their own lab and turn in a lab report. Discussion of the lab concepts amongst your classmates is encouraged, however I expect you to come up with your own answers to the questions asked. Late lab reports will not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances that have been brought to my attention and cleared. If extenuating circumstances arise, and have been cleared, the lab must be made up within a week.

Attendance

Attendance in lab session is MANDATORY. I will not take attendance at the beginning of class, but I will know who is there based on who turns in their lab. I will not accept a lab turned in by a friend. In order to turn in a lab you yourself must hand it in.

If you need to miss a lab due to athletic or religious reasons please inform me as soon as possible, but by no later than one week prior to the missed class. It may be possible for you to attend an alternate lab session, but this first must be cleared with the proper teaching assistant. I understand that sometimes you will need to miss a lab due to illness or unavoidable circumstances (ex. A death in the family) and will not be able to provide the required one week notice. Please let me know as soon as possible and other arrangements can be made for you to receive credit for your lab. Asking to turn in lab 3 a week before our final lab will not fly too far.

Lab Structure

We will start each lab promptly at the stated starting time. Please make your best effort to not come in late as it disrupts the class. Be sure to come prepared. This means bringing a pencil, eraser, calculator, and sometimes colored pencils to each class. I will give a brief introduction to each lab before you start on your assignment, and 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 please use your time effectively. Labs are due at the end of each lab period.

DO NOT WORK ON THE LAB EXERCISE BEFORE CLASS!! This will be considered a form of cheating, and will result in a score of zero on that particular lab. Plus, this is the one lab where you can be somewhat of a slacker – you will be able to do all of the lab work in lab and should never have 'homework' other than studying for the lab quizzes. Take advantage of this situation, as it does not happen often!

Grading

Lab exercises	60%
Lab quizzes	40%

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. You may lose points for sloppy or illegible work, so please be as neat as possible. Although the number of total points for each lab will change, all labs will be weighted equally. The lowest lab grade will be dropped.

There will be 5 quizzes over lab material throughout the semester.

Correspondence:

When sending me e-mails, please use your OU e-mail address and put METR 1014: last name in the subject line. I receive many e-mails and this will ensure that yours are read before the others. I will respond to your emails within 24 hours during the week, although all bets are off on the weekends. As you lab

TA, I will be able to answer questions about the lab work, but please direct questions regarding the lecture portion of the course to the course instructor.

Classroom Courtesy:

Cell phones, pagers, and watch alarms should be turned off or put to silent before coming to lab.

Desire2Learn Website:

I will be using Desire2Learn in this lab for posting grades, lab notes (when applicable), and other important information. You can find this at <https://learn.ou.edu>. Please check it regularly for announcements.

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.