Syllabus

Weather and Climate Laboratory
Lab 913
Spring 2013
2:30-4:20 pm Wednesday; SEC P203

Laboratory Instructor: Austin Harris
E-mail: a.harris@ou.edu
Office hours: Tuesday 3:00-5:00 or via appointment

I will hold my weekly office hours in SEC 410.

My job as your Teaching Assistant is to help you conceptualize the course material and to assist you with your lab work. Be willing to ask questions!

If you have a conflict with my scheduled office hours, or a question arises that you would prefer to discuss sooner than them, feel free to e-mail me.

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 Materials:

Weekly Labs: printed off from D2L website prior to the beginning of class
Other lab Supplies: colored pencils, calculator

Laboratory Expectations:
Each student is required to do his or her 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*** of the missed class period.

Attendance:

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

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 family emergency) and will not be able to provide the required one week notice. Please let me know as soon as possible before class and other arrangements can be made for you to receive credit for your lab.

If you miss a class and fail to notify me before class begins, you will receive a zero for the day and will not be allowed the opportunity to make it up at a later date.

Lab Structure:

Be sure to come prepared. This means bringing a pencil, eraser, calculator, and sometimes colored pencils to each class. You must also print out and bring your lab material to every lab. I will not accept a loose-leaf sheet of paper with the answers written on it. If you fail to bring your lab pages to class, I will give you the opportunity to complete the lab for ***half credit*** during my office hours.

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. However, I always welcome and encourage questions as you complete your labs during the class period.

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 before class. This will be considered a form of cheating, and will result in a score of zero on that particular lab.

Make-Up Work:

If you have an excused absence and need to make up a lab, you have exactly one week to complete it without penalty. Otherwise, the grade for the lab will be recorded as a zero. You must meet me during my office hours to finish any make-up work; however, in extreme circumstances I will allow you to make an appointment to meet with me in my NWC office. When you come to office hours to complete a lab, please arrive when they begin. You will most likely require the entire hour to finish your work, so the earlier you start, the better chance you'll have of making it through the lab.

Grading:

Lab exercises	60%
Lab quizzes	40%

Your final lab grade will account for 25% of your total grade in the course METR 1014. 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. **At the end of the semester, I will drop your lowest lab percentage grade.**

There will be a total of 5 quizzes over lab material throughout the semester. They will be announced and discussed in class the week before they are given.

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.

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, 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.

Lab Schedule

This list is not finite and is subject to change

Week 1: No lab

Week 2: North American Geography
Week 3: Dimensions and Units
Week 4: Earth-Atmosphere System
Week 5: Radiation & Energy Transfer
Week 6: Daily Temperature Cycle
Week 7: Saturation & Atmospheric Stability
Week 8: Atmospheric Motion
Week 9: Atmospheric Moisture
Week 10: Air Masses & Fronts
Week 11: Surface Map Analysis
Week 12: Mid-latitude Cyclones
Week 13: Thunderstorms & Tornadoes
Week 14: Hurricane Tracks & Forecasts
Week 15: COMET module Climate Change: fitting the pieces together