

# METR 1014—Introduction to Weather and Climate Laboratory

Fall 2014  
Section 914

**Course Meetings:** Tuesday, 3:30 – 5:20 in Sarkey’s Energy Center (SEC) P0207

**Instructor:** Matthew Morris

**Email:** mtmorris@ou.edu

**Office:** SEC 410A

**Office Hours:** Tuesday, 1:30 – 3:00 in SEC 410A and by appointment

**Alternate Office:** National Weather Center (NWC) 5110 (by appointment)

It is my goal to help you understand the material to the best of my ability. However, learning is a two-way process. If you need help understanding material or have any other questions or concerns, please ask me as soon as possible. I am more than happy to answer your questions during lab, office hours, or via email. If my office hours conflict with your schedule and you would like to meet, please email me with several times you are available to schedule an appointment.

**Course Goals:** The goal of this course is to help you better understand how the material presented in lecture applies to real-world examples.

**Course Website:** The website for this course can be found on Desire2Learn at <http://learn.ou.edu>. Lab assignments, grades, the course syllabus, and other important information regarding this course can be found there. Please check the page regularly and ensure that grades are recorded correctly.

## Course Materials:

**Text:** C. Donald Ahrens, *Essentials of Meteorology: An Invitation to the Atmosphere*. (While the textbook is not required to complete your assignments, you may bring it to lab with you to reference.)

**Weekly Lab Assignments:** Printed off of D2L website prior to the beginning of class.

**Other Lab Supplies:** Pencil, colored pencils, calculator, ruler, and any other materials stated at the beginning of the lab assignment.

**Lab Structure and Expectations:** We will start lab promptly at the scheduled time. Please make every effort to arrive on time, as it is disruptive when you arrive late. You may also miss important announcements and course material.

Make sure to come to class prepared. This means bringing all required materials for the week’s lab assignment (pencil, ruler, calculator, colored pencils, etc.) Please be sure to print out the lab assignment from D2L before arriving to class as I will not have extra copies available. Should you forget to print your assignment, there is a library located in Sarkey’s where you may print it (at a small cost). Lab assignments must be completed on the assignment sheet, and will not be accepted if they are completed on loose-leaf paper. Lab assignments will be posted on D2L several days before the scheduled lab meeting.

Lab assignments must be completed during the scheduled lab period and are due at the end of class. You should have sufficient time to complete the lab assignments. **DO NOT** begin working on the lab assignments before class. This will be considered a form of cheating and will earn you a 0 on the assignment (see below).

Each student is required to complete their own lab assignment. Discussing lab concepts with your classmates is encouraged; however, you are expected to formulate your own answers to the questions posed (i.e. using your own words).

**Attendance and Late Work Policy:** Attendance is mandatory for METR 1014 lab sessions. While I will not take attendance at the beginning of class, you must be present in lab to both complete and hand in your assignment. Note that I will know who was present in lab by who hands in their assignment.

Should 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***. You may be able to attend an alternate lab session, but this must be cleared in advance with both myself and the other teaching assistant. Should you need to miss class for another excused reason (e.g. illness, family emergency), please let me know as far in advance as possible so that arrangements can be made for you to complete the assignment.

Late lab assignments will not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances that have been cleared with me in advance of the scheduled lab meeting.

Should you have an excused absence and need to make up a lab assignment, you will have exactly one week to complete the assignment for full credit. I will make every effort to return lab assignments the week after they are completed, so I cannot accept lab assignments after this time. Make-up assignments may be completed during my office hours or during a scheduled appointment. Make-up quizzes must be completed during office hours or during a scheduled appointment.

Unexcused absences will not be tolerated. If you miss a class and fail to notify me in advance, you will receive a zero for that week's assignment and lose the chance to make it up.

**Course Grading:**

Lab exercises	60%
Lab quizzes (5)	40%

Your final lab grade will account for 25% of your course grade in METR 1014. Lab assignments are mainly graded for accuracy, although I reserve the right to deduct points from your assignments for illegible and/or sloppy work. At the end of the semester, your lowest lab exercise grade will be dropped.

There will be five 20-minute quizzes given throughout the semester. These quizzes will be announced and discussed in detail the week before they are given.

**Email Etiquette:** When communicating with me via email, please use your OU email address and include METR 1014 in the subject line to ensure your email is read quickly.

**Course Etiquette:** The use of laptops, cell phones, and other electronic devices is strictly prohibited during the lab meetings.

**Academic Integrity:** Please review the University of Oklahoma's Academic Integrity Code at <http://integrity.ou.edu>. Submission of an assignment with your name on it indicates that you have abided by the OU Integrity Pledge: "On my honor, I affirm that I have neither given nor received inappropriate aid in the completion of this exercise." Should it be determined that this is not the case, a grade of 0 will be recorded for the assignment in question and disciplinary action with the university will be taken. Should you be found guilty of violating this code, you will be removed from the course and receive a grade of F. **Cheating will not be tolerated!**

**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 me ASAP. 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.

**METR 1014-914 Lab Schedule for Fall 2014 (Tentative and subject to change)**

<b>Week Beginning:</b>	<b>Lab:</b>
August 18	<i>No labs</i>
August 25	<b>Lab 1:</b> North American Geography
September 1	<b>Lab 2:</b> Dimensions and Units
September 8	<b>Lab 3:</b> Vertical Structure of the Atmosphere
September 15	<b>Lab 4:</b> Radiation and the Satellite Interpretation
September 22	<b>Lab 5:</b> Annual Temperature Patterns
September 29	<b>Lab 6:</b> Atmospheric Moisture
October 6	<b>Lab 7:</b> Saturation and Atmospheric Stability
October 13	<b>Lab 8:</b> Atmospheric Motion
October 20	<b>Lab 9:</b> Isopleths, Advection, and Global Circulation
October 27	<b>Lab 10:</b> Air Masses, Fronts, and Mid-latitude Cyclones
November 3	<b>Lab 11:</b> Weather Map Analysis
November 10	<b>Lab 12:</b> Tornadoes
November 17	<b>Lab 13:</b> Hurricanes
November 24	<i>No labs--Thanksgiving</i>
December 1	<b>Lab 14:</b> Climate Change