



NRES 299 - Climate in Crisis

Taglines - We Do The Heavy Lifting

Instructors: Ken Dewey and Jim Swinehart

Textbook: The Rough Guide to Climate Change

Schedule:

Dates (# lectures)	Topics	Reading in Text
The Science		
Jan14-18 (3)	Intro: Why you should care Science as a way of knowing	p vii-x
Jan 21-25 (3)	Climate Science Basics Weather vs Climate	p161-182
Jan 28-30 (2)	Greenhouse Science Climate data issues Why one degree matters	p 3-18 p 19-30
Feb 1-4 (2)	Climate-The long view Climate controls	p 183-232
Feb 6-11 (3)	Paleoclimate archives 4.5 ba – 2.7 ma Last ice ages 2.7ma-12ka Holocene last 12ka	
Feb 13 (1)	Great Plains paleoclimate- last 20ka	
Feb 15	FIRST EXAM	
Feb 18-22 (3)	Climate Modeling How models are created, tested Model uncertainty Major players	p 217-232
The Symptoms – What's Happening Now and Projected for the Future		
Feb 25-27 (2)	Temperature	p 43-54
Feb 29, Mar 3 (2)	Droughts and Floods	p 55-70
Mar 5-7 (2)	The World of Ice	p 71-99
Mar 10-12 (2)	The Oceans and sea level	p 100-120
Mar 14 (1)	Hurricanes and storms	p 121-138
Mar 17-21	SPRING BREAK	
Mar 24-28 (3)	Ecosystems and Agriculture	p 139-158
Mar 31	SECOND EXAM	
Debates and Solutions		
April 2-4 (2)	A Heated Debate Skeptics vs Contrarians European vs US view	p 235-261
April 7-11 (3)	Political solutions Kyoto and Beyond Adaptation and Mitigation	p 262-287
April 14-18 (3)	Technological solutions ASES Report (2007)	p 288-312
April 21-25 (3)	Personal Solutions	p 313-326

April 28-2 (3)	In class "Debates"	
	NO FINAL EXAM	

Points:

Two written Exams in class @ 100 pts each	200 pts
Three Homework short essays @ 25 pts each	75 pts
Debate participation and short paper 50 pts	50 pts
One Portfolio Project 150 pts	150 pts
Total	500 pts

The in class "Debates" would have student determined topics debated by teams of students, one pro and one con.

Additional recommended books with readings to be assigned:

- Elizabeth Kolbert, (2006) Field Notes from a Catastrophe: Man, Nature, and Climate Change 240p \$12
- ASES Report (2007) Tackling Climate Change in the U.S. (free download 9Mb pdf file)
<http://www.ases.org/climatechange/main.html>

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