Geography 333C - Severe and Unusual Weather (Unique # 36915)
Spring Semester 2018

Use of Class Materials
The materials used in this class, including, but not limited to, exams, quizzes, and homework assignments are copyright protected works. Any unauthorized copying and selling of the class materials is a violation of federal law and may result in disciplinary actions being taken against the student. Additionally, the sharing of class materials without the specific, express approval of the instructor may be a violation of the University's Student Honor Code and an act of academic dishonesty, which could result in further disciplinary action. This includes, among other things, uploading any and all class materials (including class notes) to web sites for the purpose of selling and/or sharing those materials with other current or future students.

“Non Technology” Classroom
I prohibit the use of laptop computers and smart phones (including texting) during class time unless specified by the instructor and/or TA. This is a “zero tolerance” policy - we will be monitoring the classroom and will stop lecture and ask anyone using a device to turn it off. My expectation is that you are here to listen to and take part in lecture. Accordingly, your class notes must be taken with paper and pen.

LOCATION AND TIME: Liberal Arts (CLA) 1.102, TTh 2:00 pm - 3:15 pm
INSTRUCTOR: Troy Kimmel, Senior Lecturer  CV BIO  (Email: tkimmel@austin.utexas.edu)
TEACHING ASSISTANT: Sophie Fuchs (Email: sophiemfuchs@utexas.edu)
OFFICE: Liberal Arts Building - CLA (Just east of UT Student Activity Center), Room 3.412
OFFICE HOURS (9 Hours Weekly): M/W 12:00 noon-3:30pm -- Tu/Th 12:30pm-1:50pm & 3:30pm-4:00pm
PHONES: Home Office 512-335-6472 - auto forwards to my cell (Use at all times other than classtime/office hours)
           UT Office 512-232-1590 (Office hours only), UT Geography Switchboard 512-471-5116

CLASS OBJECTIVES:
As a continuation of and having a prerequisite of GRG301K/Weather and Climate (with a recommended grade of C or better), this course expands more specifically into a detailed more technical discussion of atmospheric hazards such as severe thunderstorms and their offspring (hail, lightning, tornadoes, damaging winds and flash floods) as well as tropical cyclones. As part of that discussion, we’ll discuss human risk perception as it regards these atmospheric hazards.

ATTENDANCE:
While this is probably not going to be the hardest course you’ve ever taken (or will take) in your college career, it is intensive. This is due, primarily, to the amount of material to be covered during the semester. It is, therefore, my philosophy that your success in this course will vary directly with your class attendance. Be aware of the fact that attendance will be taken on a daily basis and this information will be used in the computation of your final class grade. Be aware of the fact that attendance will be taken on a regular basis, through the Squarecap class management application (you will need to purchase access). We will be doing this through your smart phone web browser. Excessive absences will work against you while perfect attendance can help you to the next highest letter grade in borderline situations at the end of the semester.
Our class time is 2:00pm to 3:15pm Tuesday and Thursday. Promptness is expected; you should make every effort to be in the classroom by 2:00pm. Late arrivals are an interruption to the class material being presented and are unfair to your fellow students that have made the effort to be on time.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS / POLICY ON SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:
In this class, there is zero tolerance for students who violate university rules on scholastic dishonesty with all suspected cases turned over to the University’s Dean of Students office. Penalties for scholastic include the possibility of failure of course and dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, fellow students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be STRICTLY ENFORCED in this class.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA):
The University of Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY, 866-329-3986 video phone.
If you have documentation regarding accommodations from the Dean of Students office, you must meet with me, in person and during office hours, as early as possible in the semester to discuss exact accommodations. When you come to this meeting, you will be required to provide written documentation from the Services for Students with Disabilities.
**TEXTBOOK/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:**
We will be utilizing a textbook as well as a number of instructional materials, including online materials.

Textbook: Severe and Hazardous Weather (5th Edition) - Rauber, Walsh and Charlevoix
No other publisher materials will be used, so you may buy a new or used textbook.
The textbook is available at the University Coop and other university area bookstores as well as on the web. Shop around for the best price.

**DAILY WEATHER BRIEFINGS**
Depending on ongoing weather, there will be weather briefings, led by the instructor, which will be held at the beginning of class. Students are expected to be aware of the overall weather pattern before class so that meaningful class discussions can be held.

**GRADING PROCEDURE:**
You will have the opportunity to earn 400 points during the semester.

At the end of the semester, when utilizing the UT “Plus” / “Minus” Final Grade Grading System and applying it to our 400 point grading system...

- 360-373 = A- (GPA earned = 3.67), 374-400 = A (GPA earned = 4.00)
- 320-331 = B- (GPA earned = 2.67), 332-345 = B (GPA earned = 3.00), 346-359 = B+ (GPA earned = 3.33)
- 280-291 = C- (GPA earned = 1.67), 292-305 = C (GPA earned = 2.00), 306-319 = C+ (GPA earned = 2.33)
- 240-251 = D- (GPA earned = 0.67), 252-265 = D (GPA earned = 1.00), 266-279 = D+ (GPA earned = 1.33)
- 0-239 = F (GPA earned = 0.00)

There will be three exams during the semester (multiple choice, true false, matching, short answer and essay). These exams will be during our regularly scheduled class time. Each of the exams will be cumulative in nature since topics covered early in the semester are used when looking at the individual types of severe and unusual weather during the remainder of the semester. Each of these exams will count 100 points (for a total of 300 points). Makeup examinations will only be given at the discretion of the instructor with an official university excuse. Class participation/attendance, homework and class exercises will count for an additional 100 points; homework and class exercises not turned in on date assigned will have a point(s) penalty. There will be no final examination.

If you have a question regarding your exams, it is your responsibility to visit during office hours when we will access your copy of the exam. Any questions regarding exams will be brought forth within one week of the exam return date otherwise the grade is considered final.

**EXAMINATION DAYS:**
In order to ensure honesty in the classroom (and given the class size for this particular class and section), please note that I have set guidelines in reference to examination days:
- # Beginning with the handout of the examinations, I expect silence
- # All material that you bring with you on examination day will be placed on the floor under your seat
- # No headwear (caps, hats) will be worn while in our classroom on examination days
- # Once the examination is distributed, there will be no leaving the classroom for any reason.

**CLASSROOM / CAMPUS EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS:**
The status of University of Texas campus activities in times of emergency (i.e., severe/inclement weather) along with some important procedures in case of emergencies on our campus as well as in our classrooms can always be found on the University of Texas Emergency Web Page.

The University of Texas maintains Emergency Action Plans that addresses emergencies that could potentially affect the our community. You can reference the various plans here.

Our UT Siren System is used in times of emergencies when it is necessary for you to "shelter in place" in campus buildings (remain in or go to the nearest building on campus when the siren is activated and remain there until the "all clear" is given). The UT Siren System, as part of policy, is tested monthly on the first Wednesday of every month between 11:50 am and 12:00 noon. Please don't take the siren system tests for granted; be ready to take action if the siren system is activated!

We will discuss, during the first class day of the session, our emergency plan for our specific classroom in case of fire, severe/inclement weather and other different situations. Please take this discussion seriously and ask any questions that you may have!!

**UT POLICY ON EMAIL NOTIFICATION**
Instructor to student email is a recognized and accepted form of official communication here at the University of Texas. For the University policy, read this. It is critically important that (1) you make sure to have your current and most frequently checked email address on file in UT Direct and (2) you check it on a daily basis. I will send class email frequently during the semester and you'll be given updates and change notices in references to lectures as well as exams.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SUBJECT MATTER</th>
<th>CHAPTERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 Jan -</td>
<td>Properties of the Atmosphere</td>
<td>Ch 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Feb</td>
<td>Meteorological Measurements</td>
<td>Ch 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9 Class Sessions)</td>
<td>Forecasting and Simulating Severe Weather</td>
<td>Ch 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Atmospheric Stability / Forces and Force Balances</td>
<td>Ch 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Development of High/Low Pressure Areas/Air Masses and Fronts</td>
<td>Ch 6, 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu / 15 Feb</td>
<td>– EXAM #1 –</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Feb -</td>
<td>Extratropical Cyclones</td>
<td>Ch 10, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Mar</td>
<td>Thunderstorms</td>
<td>Ch 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9 Class Sessions)</td>
<td>Thunderstorm Hazards</td>
<td>Ch 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tornadoes</td>
<td>Ch 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hail</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu / 29 Mar</td>
<td>– EXAM #2 –</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 Apr -</td>
<td>Floods</td>
<td>Ch 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01 May</td>
<td>Downbursts</td>
<td>Ch 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9 Class Sessions)</td>
<td>Lightning</td>
<td>Ch 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tropical Cyclones</td>
<td>Ch 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drought</td>
<td>Ch 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cold /Heat Waves, Ice Storms</td>
<td>Ch 14, 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Southern Oscillation</td>
<td>Ch 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu / 03 May</td>
<td>– EXAM #3 –</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Last updated 12/21/2017 - tmk