

Course	Meteorology 10 – Weather & Climate Processes (Online) – Fall 2015 Section 62Z (CRN# 21569) & Section 66Z (CRN# 21570)
Instructor	Bridget James
Class Location	http://catalyst.deanza.edu
Office Hours	Wednesdays and Thursdays 3:00 – 4:00 pm
Office Location	Online - email
E-mail	jamesbridget@deanza.edu

Textbook & Materials Needed:

- Ahrens, C.D., 2014, Essentials of Meteorology, Brooks Cole, 7th Edition (older edition is also okay to use)
- Regular and reliable access to a computer with a good Internet connection (Required).

Course Description and Student Learning Outcomes:

This course is an introduction to the sciences of meteorology and climatology. How scientists evaluate atmospheric processes using the scientific method will be emphasized throughout the course. Student learning outcomes for this course is: 1.) Analyze and explain the objective techniques used by synoptic meteorologists and climatologists to forecast our planet’s weather and to predict future changes in our planet’s climate. 2.) Assess and critique the impact of meteorology and climatology as sciences on local, national and international economic, environmental, ethical and political issues, including climate change.

About Online Courses:

Online courses are different from traditional lecture courses. They offer much more flexibility in completing assignments and listening to lectures. However, you will need to have good self-discipline in completing these tasks, especially in a timely manner. This is a five-unit course. This equates to five hours of work per week during a regular quarter. This does not include the extra personal study time needed in addition to those mandatory class hours that the State of California and De Anza College requires. If you are planning on mastering the material covered this quarter, you will need to make sure you 1.) Are engaged in the course at least 5-hours a week (not including study time); 2.) Login at least two different days during the week (to maximize your forum participation points); 3.) Study for the exams using your class lecture notes, activities, the study guide and the sample exams provided.

Modules:

A module is a specific and discrete learning segment that leads to the understanding of a given topic. Modules will be assigned by topic on Catalyst. Modules include all assignments and tasks that will be completed for a particular topic and are to be completed within the dates specified on the syllabus (schedule is below and online). All modules will include the following tasks to complete: 1.) Forum participation; 2.) Listening to lecture(s); 3.) Module Activity. In addition, it’s possible you will also have a documentary to watch. For instructions on how to complete the above tasks, please read the instructions for each task below.

Lectures:

Lectures will be presented online as Power Point presentations converted into a movie file that can be watched and listened to using Quicktime software or on YouTube ©. It will be expected that you take notes while listening to the lecture, much like a traditional course. A benefit to a recorded lecture is you can re-listen to any topic at anytime. Any questions you may have during the lecture should also be written down immediately in your notebook. Sometimes, those questions answer themselves further in the lecture. What isn’t answered should be E-mailed to me or posted in the online forum participation to get feedback from your fellow students (or both).

Missing lectures will severely impact your ability to learn the course material, and most likely will severely hurt your grade, much like in a traditional class. Exam questions almost always come directly from these lectures, so be sure to discipline yourself to listen and take notes. Notes do not need to be turned in to me. Please keep those for studying purposes.

Forum Participation (20% of your grade):

One time each week for C-level (70%) work, or several times each week (earlier and later in the week) for A-level or B-level work (80-100%), you will be required to participate in an online forum on topics involving the Earth Sciences. More details of what will be expected of you can be found in a document called “Forum Participation Guidelines” located at the top center of the course website. Forum posts are not accepted late for any reason. However, the lowest two forum scores (one from the first six modules and one from the last six modules) will be dropped from your final grade. Important note: It is your responsibility to verify that your post actually posted on to the page before leaving the forum.

Module Activities (50% of your grade):

Module activities are assignments that are completed after listening to a lecture on a particular topic within a module and are due by the end of the week that module is assigned for. These assignments are designed to help students master the course material in preparation for the exams. These activities are both problem solving and review questions based on the lecture, module activity and/or films watched. You will turn in these activities online. Emailed assignments are not accepted for any reason. The top of each activity will have submission instructions. There will be 10 module activities this quarter. If you have

a situation where you cannot submit an activity in on time, I will accept most activities later than their due date, but only for a specified period of time (see activity instructions for details). Once that period of time has passed, I will not accept the activity for any reason. A make-up activity will be assigned at the end of the quarter that will be due during finals week.

IMPORTANT! Attempting to turn in more than one module activity just before the grace period deadline is at your own risk. If you miss this deadline for any reason at all, even if that reason is out of your control, and you cannot get your assignments turned in because you waited until the very last day of your grace period to turn it in, that is completely on you and you will receive a zero on those activities. No exceptions.

Mid-Term and Final Exam (30% of your grade):

There will be two online timed exams for this course that will each be an objective-type multiple-choice exam. Exam #1 will cover topics learned in Modules 1-5. Exam #2 will cover topics learned in Modules 6-10. A study guide, which will outline administrative details of the exam along with the topics covered, will be posted on the course website for studying purposes a week in advance of the exam opening. I will also make a sample exam available a few days before the exam date. You may use notes while you take the exam, but because the exams are timed once you start them, you should master the subjects you are being tested on before attempting an exam so that you can finish in plenty of time. I highly recommend having a small index card worth of notes near by and your completed sample exam while you are taking each online exam to help you save time thumbing through your notes and textbook for answers. Much like a classroom exam, once you submit your answers, your exam score will not be available to you immediately. Your score will be made available to you after the last day the exam is available to students.

WARNING: IT IS **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** TO UNDERSTAND WHEN AN EXAM OPENS AND CLOSSES. IF YOU MISS AN EXAM DUE TO MISUNDERSTANDING THE SCHEDULE, INTERNET ISSUES, WEBACCESS ISSUES, HOSPITAL STAYS, OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON, EVEN IF THAT REASON IS OUT OF YOUR CONTROL, YOU WILL STILL RECEIVE A ZERO ON THAT EXAM. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Grading:

Forum Participation (10)	20% (200 points)
Module Activities (10)	50% (500 points)
Exams (2)	30% (300 points)
Total Points:	100% (1000 points)

A: 920-1000	C+: 780-799	D-: 600-619
A-: 900-919	C: 720-779	F: Below 600
B+: 880-899	C-: 700-719	
B: 820-879	D+: 680-699	
B-: 800-819	D: 620-679	

Policy on Academic Dishonesty:

A student, who displays inappropriate conduct, including cheating and plagiarism, will be subject to disciplinary action. At minimum, a student will receive a “zero” for the assignment in question and will be reported to the College for further action. For more information on academic dishonesty, please see the college catalog.

Policy for Dropping Students:

Students who have not logged into the course website on Catalyst and posted their first forum participation post or submitted their first module activity within the first week of classes may be dropped for non-attendance. However, it is **always** the student’s responsibility to drop courses they have registered for before the drop deadline if they wish to drop.

Note for students with disabilities:

Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor and/or DSS. Disability Support Services (DSS) will facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. DSS is located in SCS 41 and can be reached by telephone (Voice 408-864-8753/TTY 408-864-8748).

Course Schedule:

- Module 1: Introduction to the Atmosphere, Sept 21st – 27th
- Module 2: Earth’s Heat & Temperature, Sept 28th – Oct 4th
- Module 3: Humidity, Condensation & Clouds, Oct 5th - 11th
- Module 4: Atmospheric Stability & Precipitation, Oct 12th – 18th
- Module 5: Air Pressure & Wind, Oct 19th – 25th
- REVIEW WEEK, Oct 26th – Nov 1st

Important Administrative Dates

- Sept 21st (Mon): First day of class
- Oct 4th (Sun): Drop deadline with no record of grade.
- Oct 16th (Fri): Deadline for CR/NC
- Nov 9th (Mon): Veterans Day Holiday
- Nov 13th (Fri): Last day to drop with a “W”
- Nov 26th – 29th : Thanksgiving Break

MIDTERM EXAM: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND – OPEN BETWEEN 8:00 AM – 11:55 PM

- Module 6: Atmospheric Circulation & El Niño, Nov 2nd – 8th
- Module 7: Air Masses & Weather Fronts, Nov 9th – 15th
- Module 8: Thunderstorms, Nov 16th – 22nd
- Module 9: Hurricanes, Nov 23rd – 25th

Note: To observe the Thanksgiving holiday, Module 9 will need to be completed by Wednesday. However, the Module can be worked on over the holiday if needed.

Module 10: Climate Change, Nov 30th – Dec 6th (Note: Module Activity 10 does not have a grace period)

FINAL EXAM: MONDAY, DECEMBER 7TH – OPEN BETWEEN 8:00 AM – 11:55 PM