

**De Anza College**  
**Physical Science, Mathematics & Engineering Division**  
**Meteorology 10, Weather & Climate Processes**

<b>Section(s):</b>	32686, Winter 2018
<b>Instructor:</b>	Terrence J. Mullens (Preferred Pronouns: He/Him/His)
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<b>Office Hours (in S48A):</b>	M/W 1-2pm, T/Th/F: 11:30-12:30pm
<b>Classroom:</b>	Online
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None (Some basic math skills may be helpful)

### **Introduction**

This syllabus is like the “Terms of Service” that you agree to when you download iTunes or anything else off the internet. However, this is much shorter and I actually expect you to read it! Our first quiz will be heavily based off of it! Your continued enrollment is your agreement to abide by the terms and conditions outlined in this syllabus.

### **Course Description**

Welcome to the wonderful world of Weather! This course will cover all of the fundamental concepts behind the weather we see in our everyday lives. This includes atmospheric structure/composition, heat and radiation, forces that affect wind, humidity, atmospheric stability, precipitation and clouds, extreme weather and climate change. We'll also cover areas of interest such as the California Drought, El Nino/La Nina, and potentially any major weather events that occur during the quarter.

### **Course Website**

Everything you will do on this class will be posted/submitted on the course's Canvas webpage. You are expected to log on to the course webpage at least two times a week.

### **Textbook and Course Materials:**

“Essentials of Meteorology” by C. Donald Ahrens 7<sup>th</sup> edition (older editions are fine!). Because this is an online class, **having the textbook is essential!**

### **Contacting Me**

If you need to get a hold of me for any reason, please email me at the email address listed above. I check my email continuously during the office hours scheduled above, often during business hours, and less often at nights/weekends. If, you do not hear from me within 24 hours, please re-send your email.

## Online Class: What's the Difference?

Because this is an online class, you are allowed to study/watch lectures/attempt assignments at your own leisure. However, online classes can be difficult, simply because they require more discipline than a traditional lecture. There are no meetings that you have to be present at... but you still need to be regularly involved in the class to succeed.

**Assignments:** This class will consist of **10 modules** and **four exams** (three midterms and the final). Each module will consist of a discussion question (to be posted on a forum on Canvas), a series of video lectures, reading assignments, an activity, and a quiz. Expect each module to take approximately 5 hours, not including time spent studying/preparing for the class. We will do one module each week. The module for each week will be posted no later than **12am the Monday** of the week and due by **11:59pm that Sunday**.

**A Word of Warning:** While you are free to work on the modules at your leisure, I strongly urge you to not wait until the last minute to submit a module activity. If anything causes you to submit any module activity after the deadline, regardless of reason, you will still be assessed a late penalty. The same goes for the late deadline; if you are unable to submit your module activities within 48 hours of the original deadline, it will not be accepted, regardless of reason. Also, you are completely responsible for making sure that your work is submitted properly.

**Attendance/Punctuality:** You are expected to log in to the course website **at least twice per week**, and that is the bare minimum. You will be dropped from the course if you fail to log on for the first time by Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, you fail to log on at least once each week, or if you fail to turn in at least one module activity in a given week. Regardless, if you choose drop the course, it is your responsibility to do so. If you fail to drop before the deadline, I will have to award you a grade, most likely an F.

**Issues/Grievances:** While I try my best to make this class a positive learning environment, there is always the chance that either something I or someone else in class does might not sit well with you; if that is the case, I am more than happy to hear any grievances in private. I've found that 99.9% of any issues that arise are easily settled (and to everyone's satisfaction) by a brief conversation.

### Important Dates:

Last Day to Drop (and get a refund): **January 21<sup>st</sup>** Last Day to Add: **January 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Midterm Exams: **January 28<sup>th</sup>, February 15<sup>th</sup>, March 9<sup>th</sup>** Final Exam: **March 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Last Day to Drop (With a "W"): **March 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Holidays: **January 15<sup>th</sup> (MLK Day), February 16<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> (Presidents Weekend)**

### Assignments and Grading

Module Discussion (10 @ 10 points each)...	100 pts
Module Activities (10 @ 20 points each)...	200 pts
Module Quizzes (10 @ 20 points each)...	200 pts
Midterm Exams (2 @ 100 points each)...	200 pts
Final Exam...	100 pts
<b>Total...</b>	<b>800 pts</b>

### **Grading Scale:**

>720 = A, 640-719 = B, 520-639 = C, 440-519 = D, < 440 = F

+/- grades will be assigned when a grade is within 16 points (2%) of the next grade level

Note: I reserve the right to adjust this scale, but only to benefit you.

**Late/Makeup Policy:** You are allowed to submit modules up to 48 hours late, but you will be penalized by **10% for each day late**. I will not make any exceptions to this policy, regardless of any reason. There will be one makeup module assigned the week before finals. **I will not schedule makeups/accept late exams for any reason!**

### **Other Policies**

**Disabilities:** If you need any accommodation due to a disability (note taker, etc.), please don't hesitate to let me know and I'll be happy to help! All accommodations will need to be made through Disability Support Programs and Services (DSPS), which is located at RSS-141, or online at <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/>.

**Academic Integrity:** I will NOT tolerate cheating or plagiarism of any kind! **This includes copying stuff off the internet!** While you're allowed (actually, encouraged) to work together) on assignments, you must turn in your own work, and in your own words! The first offense results in a grade of "0" on the assignment and a stern warning. Any subsequent offense results in a report filed with the dean's office.

### **Course Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
1	1/8-1/14	Module 1: Introduction to the Atmosphere, <b>Due 1/14</b>
2	1/15-1/21	Module 2: Temperature and Heat, <b>Due 1/21</b>
3	1/22-1/28	Module 3: Moisture and Clouds, <b>Due 1/28, Exam 1: 1/26</b>
4	1/29-2/4	Module 4: Stability and Precipitation, <b>Due 2/4</b>
5	2/5-2/11	Module 5: Wind and Atmospheric Circulations, <b>Due 2/11</b>
6	2/12-2/18	Module 6: Circulations, Monsoon, El Nino, <b>Due 2/18, Exam 2: 2/15</b>
7	2/19-2/25	Module 7: Fronts and Mid-Latitude Cyclones, <b>Due 2/25</b>
8	2/26-3/4	Module 8: Thunderstorms and Tornadoes, <b>Due 3/4</b>
9	3/5-3/11	Module 9: Hurricanes and Superstorms, <b>Due 3/11, Exam 3: 3/9</b>
10	3/12-3/18	Module 10: Global Climate Change, <b>Due 3/18</b>
11	3/19-3/25	Module 11: Weather Forecasting, <b>Due 3/25</b>
12	Finals Week	<b>Final Exam: Friday, 3/30 (Open at 12am, Closes at 11:59pm).</b>

NOTE: This schedule is tentative and Subject to Change for any reason (and it probably will)!

**Student Learning Outcome(s):**

\*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.

\*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.