SYLLABUS--GEOGRAPHY 310
GENERAL CLIMATOLOGY
Fall 2017-Initial Draft

Time: T-R 11:00-12:15 p.m. (BOL B40 and TBD)
Instructor: Dist. Prof. Mark D. Schwartz (mds@uwm.edu)
Office: BOL 490 -- messages may be left in BOL 410 (Geog. Dept.)
Office Phone: 229-3740 Messages: 229-4866 (Geog. Dept.)
Office Hours: by appointment only
Class Web Page: http://people.uwm.edu/mds/geography-310/
Class Reflector: geog-310@uwm.edu

Textbooks: Rohli & Vega, Climatology (3rd edition, 2015)
Map supplement: A package of weather maps is required, and can accessed from the class web page (http://people.uwm.edu/mds/files/2016/09/map_sup-1mypils.pdf)

This course examines global patterns of climate and the processes that shape them. Specific topics include: overview of atmospheric processes, global distribution of individual climatic elements, upper-atmospheric waves and jet streams, weather data on the Internet, climate of the Midwest U.S., climate classification systems, and a survey of the world’s major climatic regions. The final portion of the course studies past climates, climate change mechanisms, and likely future climates.

COURSE POLICIES

1. Evaluation: Grades will be assigned on the basis of the total points accumulated from tests, exercises, and discussion/participation throughout the semester (420 possible). These will consist of 3 exams (100 points each), exercises (total of 80 points), and discussion/participation, including lecture attendance (total of 40 points).

   The percentages necessary to receive certain grades will be no higher than the following:

   88%--(A-)
   78%--(B-)
   68%--(C-)
   58%--(D-)

2. Notices: Grades, once given are final except in cases of clerical error. Do not use a red pencil or pen to write exam answers. All tests must be taken as scheduled; make-ups are given in case of documented student illness or other emergency only. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor when an exam or other course requirement will be missed. If you need special accommodations in order to meet any of the requirements of this course, please contact me as soon as possible. Do you own work...plagiarism and cheating are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Additional information regarding the policies and procedures applicable to this course are available on-line (http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/SyllabusLinks.pdf) and posted in the Geography Dept. main office, BOL410. In the event of disruption of normal classroom activities due to an epidemic, the format for this course may be modified to enable completion of the course. No weapons are permitted in any building on the UWM campus.
LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READINGS

Rohli & Vega Chapters

Sept.
5-T--Introduction and course procedures; 1
7-R--Solar Energy; 3, pp. 27-36
12-T--Long-wave Ener., Ener.-Temp., Exercise #1 distributed (5 points); 2
14-R--Temperature Variation, Human impacts
19-T--Moisture in the atmosphere, (#1 due); 5
21-R--World Precipitation Distribution,
   Pressure, Winds, Moisture, Exercise #2 distributed (10 points); 6
26-T--Pressure and Winds; 3, pp. 36-53
28-R--General Circulation, (#2 due); 7, pp. 129-140

Oct.
3-T--Air masses, Atmospheric Disturbances
5-R--Atmospheric Disturbances (continued)
10-T--Weather Map Interpretation (meet in TBD); 7, pp. 140-142
12-R--EXAM ONE

17-T--Constant Pressure Charts
   Map Interpretation, Exercise #3 distributed (10 points)
19-R--Vorticity; 7, pp. 142-144
24-T--CAVT and Teleconnection, (#3 due); 7, pp. 144-146
26-R--Waves and Wave motion,
   Vorticity, Exercise #4 distributed (15 points); 7, pp. 146-151
31-T--Climate variability; 4

Nov.
2-R--Midwestern Regional Weather, (#4 due)
7-T--Climate model orientation (meet in TBD)
   Climate Model, Exercise #5 distributed (15 points); 13, pp. 322-327
9-R--Midwestern Regional Weather (continued)
14-T--Climatic Classification,
   Köppen Classification, Exercise #6 distributed (10 points); 8
16-R--EXAM TWO

21-T--Af Climate, Am and Aw Climate, Monsoon Climate, (#5 due); 9,10
23-R--THANKSGIVING--NO CLASS
28-T--B Climates, Cs Climates, Cf Climates
30-R--D and E Climates, “History” of the earth's paleoclimates, (#6 due),
   African Transect Exercise #7 distributed (15 points); 11, pp. 272-288

Dec.
5-T--Natural climate change;
   Unintentional human-induced climatic change; 11, pp. 288-295
7-R--VIDEO--“Chasing Ice”, (#7 due); 15
12-T--Coping with variable climate, future climates; 12, pp. 309-319
14-R--Discussion, evaluations and wrap-up
22-FRIDAY--EXAM THREE, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon