

Department of Atmospheric Sciences

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT – SEMESTER I – 2007 – 2008

ATMS 202 Sec. DC: Societal Impacts of Weather and Climate

Call number: 49493

Instructor: Donna Charlevoix, 111 Atmos. Sci. Bldg., 244-9575

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Room and Time: 106B3 Engr. Hall; 1:00 – 1:50 p.m. M W F

Credit: 3 hours

Prerequisites: member of Campus Honors Program (CHP), or have at least a 3.30 GPA, approval from instructor and approval from CHP office.

How have weather and climate changed the shape of the United States? How have they impacted your life? How might they impact our lives in the near future? This course will look at the complex relationship between weather & climate and society. Discussions will be centered around how weather & climate have impacted the social, economic, political, and environmental structures of the United States. Past, current and potential future policies will be investigated to determine their role in how impacts have evolved in recent history.

This Honors course will be available to students of all majors and will provide an interdisciplinary look at weather and climate. The course will vary from typical atmospheric sciences courses in that the format will be student-centered. Readings, including the newest publications and issues of concern, will be read by students prior to class and discussed in class with a different pair of students helping to lead each discussion. A major component of the course is the development of a weather and climate Impact Portfolio that will be comprehensive and semester-long, incorporating all elements discussed in class.

If space is available, non-CHP students may enroll, provided they meet the prerequisites listed above.

Text: *Climate Affairs: A Primer*, M. H. Glantz (2003) Island Press (required)
The Rough Guide to Climate Change, R. Henson (2006) Penguin Publishers (required)
The Rough Guide to Weather, R. Henson (2002) Penguin Publishers (recommended)
Readings to be provided.