METR 4650
METEOROLOGY SEMINAR (O)
SPRING 2021

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Eastin
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Class Time: Monday at 10:10 – 11:00 am
Class Location: Virtual (100% online - synchronous)

Office: Zoom meetings
Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistant: None

Text: No text – All presentations and supplements will be provided.

Course Description: Advanced seminar series examining career opportunities in the atmospheric sciences. Coursework consists of a series of oral presentations by students, combined with traditional and invited lectures. Topics will include short-term and long-term career goals, internships, jobs, graduate schools, resume refinement, interview strategies, and university-provided resources. The course is designed for meteorology majors with junior or senior status.

Course Student Learning Objectives (SLOs):

1. Improve your oral communication skills for effective use in a professional setting.
2. Know opportunities and expectations for different atmospheric science career paths
3. Develop a professional resume and personal statement

Programmatic Student Learning Objectives (SLOs):

1. Practice oral communication skills to a degree whereby one can effectively communicate a scientific topic to the public. (Meteorology – SLO3)

Course Policies:

Attendance and Participation: Attendance is essential to maintaining an effective learning environment. Regular class attendance and active participation is expected. **All virtual classroom cameras must remain on throughout each class period.** Use of cell/smart phones, email, texting, and/or personal music players during class is strictly prohibited.

Netiquette: Open and mutually respectful communication of varied opinions, beliefs, and perspectives during online discussion encourages the free exchange of ideas that is essential to higher learning and to the ability to learn from each other. Students are expected to display tolerance for others' views in the course. They are also to refrain from the use of any inappropriate language anywhere within the course.

Unwelcome conduct directed toward another person based upon that person's actual or perceived race, actual or perceived gender, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, disability, or veteran status, or for any other reason, may constitute a violation of University Policy 406, The Code of Student Responsibility. Any student suspected of engaging in such conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Assignment Deadlines: You are expected to complete assignments and give oral presentations as scheduled. Any exceptions due to participation in college-sanctioned events must communicated to the instructor beforehand. There will be **no extra credit**.

Academic Integrity: Students are responsible for knowing and following the UNCC Code of Student Academic Integrity http://www.legal.uncc.edu/policies/ps-105.html and the UNCC Code of Student Responsibility https://legal.uncc.edu/policies/up-406 in all aspects of their work in this course. This code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submissions of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity of academic dishonesty. Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course.

Accommodations: Students in this course seeking accommodations to disabilities must first consult with the Office of Disability Services and follow the instructions of that office for obtaining accommodations.

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Course Requirements:

Class Participation: Each student is required to attend class and actively participate (ask questions and complete in-class activities) throughout the period. **All virtual classroom cameras must remain on throughout each class period.** Use of cell/smart phones, email, texting, and/or personal music players during class is strictly prohibited.

Presentation of Career Goals: Each student will twice present their short-term and long-term career goals, including any additional education plans. Presentations will be 4-5 minutes in length and should be given in a professional manner. The first presentation will occur early in the semester, so students can revise their presentation based on constructive feedback. The second revised presentation will occur near the end of the semester. *These presentations are designed to mimic a short conversation a student might have with a potential employer at a conference, job fair, or interview.* More specific guidelines and evaluation rubrics are available on the course website.

Presentation of Current Weather: Each student will lead a 10-15-minute weather briefing that focuses on recent and future weather near an assigned location and demonstrate mastery of scientific concepts learned thus far. Locations will be assigned to each student at least one week prior. *These presentations are designed to mimic the traditional daily weather briefings often given to relevant stakeholders by private, government, or broadcast meteorologists so daily plans and operational decisions can be made.* More specific guidelines and evaluation rubrics are available on the course website.

Presentation of a Scientific Paper: Each student will read and orally present a professional journal article on an atmospheric phenomenon relevant to their career goals. Presentations will be 15 minutes in length and provide an effective summary of the article's motivation, methodology, and results. All articles must be approved by the instructor. *These presentations are designed to mimic a traditional conference presentation of research results.* More specific guidelines and evaluation rubrics are available on the course website.

Develop a Personal Statement: Each student will be required to develop a personal statement that outlines their motivation for studying meteorology and how they plan to achieve their short and long-term career goals. Statements should be clear, concise (less than 250 words), and effective.

Develop a Resume: Each student will be required to develop a professional resume that states their short and long-term career goals and effectively highlights their relevant education, work, and service experience.

Evaluation:

The grading scale will be a standard percentile scale. Your final grade will be calculated using the following formula:

Attendance and Participation	50
Career Goals Presentation (first)	25
Career Goals Presentation (second)	25
Current Weather Presentation	50
Scientific Paper Presentation	50
Personal Statement	25
Resume	25
Total Points	250

Percent	Grade
90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
00 – 59	F

Tentative Class Schedule:

Week	Date		Subject
1	Mon	1/18	**No Class – MLK Day**
2	Mon	1/25	Introduction to the Course
3	Mon	2/01	Overview of Careers in Meteorology
4	Mon	2/08	**No Class – Spring Break**
5	Mon	2/15	Overview of Graduate Schools
6	Mon	2/22	**Presentations of Career Goals (first)**
7	Mon	3/01	Job Applications/Interviews – Making yourself a top candidate
8	Mon	3/08	***On-Campus Resources – guest speaker from Career Center***
9	Mon	3/15	Graduate School Applications – Making yourself a top candidate
10	Mon	3/22	**Presentations of Current Weather**
11	Mon	3/29	**Presentations of Current Weather**
12	Mon	4/05	**Presentations of Current Weather**
13	Mon	4/12	Peer Critique of Personal Statements and Resumes
14	Mon	4/19	**Presentations of Career Goals (second)**
15	Mon	4/26	Effective Scientific Presentations
16	Mon	5/03	Scientific Paper Presentation Development
17	Mon	5/10	**Scientific Paper Presentations (8:00 – 10:30 am)**