



University 101 – 010 Introduction to Weather and Climate

Spring 2016 Syllabus

Instructor Information

Course Information

Name:	<i>Steve Hardin</i>	Semester Credit Hours: <i>1</i>
Office Location:	<i>LC 112</i>	Section Number: <i>010</i>
Office Telephone:	<i>812-237-7685</i>	Days: <i>Mon and Wed, 1:00 – 1:50</i>
Office Hours:	<i>Fri 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and by appt</i>	Location: <i>UH 209A</i>
Email Address:	<i>steve.hardin@indstate.edu</i>	Course Website: <i>Blackboard</i>
Twitter:	<i>@Library_SH</i>	Course Twitter Hashtag: <i>#UNIV101WX</i>

OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

Course Description

This course supports the development of skills needed to succeed in the classroom with a special focus on academic recovery. Upon completion of the course, students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and behaviors critical for academic and personal success. Students will acquire these abilities as they are introduced to the foundations of inquiry – the interests, assumptions, methodologies, and potential academic and career tracks associated with the disciplines at ISU.

Required Text and Course Materials

- View course materials and maintain access to Blackboard and your ISU email account.
- No textbook.

Recommended Course Materials

- A planner; an academic planner is available at the ISU Bookstore (Barnes & Noble)

GOALS AND OUTCOMES OF THE COURSE

Learning Objectives

- Introduce students to the expectations of Indiana State University and promote academic success
 - a) Apply appropriate academic strategies to their courses and learning experiences
 - b) Demonstrate how to effectively evaluate information sources and utilize University resources
 - c) Use written and oral communication to discover, develop, and articulate ideas and viewpoints
 - d) Identify and apply strategies to effectively manage time and priorities

- e) Identify relevant academic policies, processes, and procedures related to advising, course planning, and major exploration
 - f) Actively participate in the learning process
- Assist students in discovering and connecting with Indiana State University
 - a) Identify appropriate campus resources and opportunities that contribute to their educational experience, goals, and campus engagement
 - b) Develop and apply skills that contribute to building positive relationships with peers, staff, and faculty
 - c) Explain the importance of broadening the educational experience through co-curricular involvement and community service
 - Prepare students for responsible lives in a diverse, interconnected, and changing world
 - a) Share, discuss, and analyze a common reading experience
 - b) Explain how their background and experiences impact their values and assumptions and explain the influence these have on their relationships with others
 - c) Describe concepts of diversity and recognize diverse perspectives
 - d) Describe processes, strategies, and resources, and explain the implications of their decisions, related to their overall wellness

COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

Attendance Policy

- Attendance is required, as it is essential for optimal learning experiences in this class. Material and information will be presented in class that is not found elsewhere. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain material that was covered.
- Because of the nature of this course, all absences will be counted as unexcused absences. Missing six class periods will result in automatic failure of the course.
- Tardiness will adversely affect your final grade. Arriving late to class disturbs the class in process. Arriving more than five minutes late will be considered an absence.

Grading Policies

- **Late Assignments.** Many of the assignments in this course are specifically developed to promote student success at particular times or stages during the semester; assignments need to be completed in a timely manner to be most effective. Late assignments will be subject to a five point deduction for each class period they are late. No assignments will be accepted more than two weeks after the due date or after the last day of the semester, whichever comes first.
- **'Incomplete' Policy.** An INC is assigned when, for reasons beyond their control, students engaged in passing work are unable to complete all class assignments. Refer to the ISU University Policy on 'Incomplete' as a course grade in the *2013-2014 Undergraduate Catalog*.

Policy on Missed Quizzes

- If you know you're going to miss a quiz, you must let me know in advance - emails or phone calls will do nicely.
 - Quizzes can be made up at the discretion of the instructor.
 - If I approve your making up a quiz, we'll need to set a time and place for you to take a make-up quiz.
 - This make-up quiz **MUST** be taken within a week of the quiz you missed.
 - The make-up quiz will probably be tougher than the quiz I give in class.
- **Written Assignments.** Assignments are required to include the following formatting: (1) Double-Spaced, (2) 1" Margins, 10-12 point font (preferably Times New Roman).

Grading Rubric and Scale:

Assignment(s)	Points Possible
Participation/Attendance	50
Short Assignments	250
Term Paper	250
Quizzes	200
Final Exam	250
Total	1000

Grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number (decimal values of .50 or above will be rounded up and decimal values below .50 will be rounded down).

A	93 – 100%	(925 – 1,000 points)
A-	90 – 92%	(895 – 924 points)
B+	87 – 89%	(865 – 894 points)
B	83 – 86%	(825 – 864 points)
B-	80 – 82%	(795 – 824 points)
C+	77 – 79%	(765 – 794 points)
C	73 – 76%	(725 – 764 points)
C-	70 – 72%	(695 – 724 points)
D+	67 – 69%	(665 – 694 points)
D	63 – 66%	(625 – 664 points)
D-	60 – 62%	(595 – 624 points)
F	< 59%	(0 – 594 points)

Course Expectations

- **Freedom in and Responsibility to Our Class.** You are responsible for completing your work with excellence and submitting assignments on or before due dates. Be prepared for daily dialogue and reflection on assigned readings and classroom discussions. Treat class members and your instructor with courtesy and respect. If you are having any problems in or outside of class, please contact me so we can work together to resolve them. Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off.
- **Communication.** You and your academic and personal well-being are of paramount importance. You are encouraged to regularly contact your instructor with any questions or concerns regarding course requirements, or any academic, personal, and/or social issues. You may visit during instructor office

hours, arrange another meeting or contact me as needed.

ASSIGNMENTS

Required Coursework:

- **Short Assignments:** Over the eight weeks of the course, you will complete five one-paragraph papers on specific topics as outlined below, each worth 50 points:
 - Short Assignment #1: If you have a smartphone or tablet, download a free weather app and critique it. If you don't have a smartphone or tablet, critique one of these commercial weather web sites: www.weather.com, www.accuweather.com, www.wunderground.com or weather.unisys.com. What do you like about it? What don't you like? Why? Due: Monday, March 21st.
 - Short Assignment #2: Consider the NOAA All-Hazards radios outlined on the links at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/nwrrecvr.html#residential>. (Get information on a radio set by following the links under "Weather Radio Receivers for Consumers." If I told you I'd buy you one of these for your birthday, which one would you like me to get for you? Why? Due: Monday, March 28th.
 - Short Assignment #3: Critique one of these government weather web sites: the Storm Prediction Center (www.spc.noaa.gov), the Weather Prediction Center (www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov), the National Hurricane Center (www.nhc.noaa.gov) or the Aviation Weather Center (www.aviationweather.gov). What do you like about it? What don't you like? Why? Due: Monday, April 4th.
 - Short Assignment #4: Write a one-paragraph summary of a weather or climate article published in one of these publications: *Weatherwise*, *The Monthly Weather Review* or *The Journal of Climate*. They are all available online through the ISU Library's web site: <http://library.indstate.edu>. Due Monday, April 11th.
 - Short Assignment #5: I will give you a weather map and ask for some information that it conveys. Due: Monday, April 18th.
- **Term Paper:** Take a look at the National Weather Service's home page (www.weather.gov). Write a three-page paper describing its strengths and weaknesses. What do you like/dislike about it? Why? **Due Wednesday, April 20th.**
- **There will be four quizzes during the course, each worth 50 points.**
- **There will be a final exam Wednesday, May 4th at 1:00 p.m.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Special Accommodations

If you need special assistance in the classroom due to a disability, arrangements can be made to accommodate you. The person who coordinates and supports such efforts is Dr. Rita Worrall, Director of Student Support Services. Her office is in the Student Academic Services Center, which is located in Gillum Hall 204A.

Academic Honesty

Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of Indiana State University's Code of Student Conduct and Policy on Academic Integrity. This code forbids cheating, fabrication, or falsification of information, multiple submission of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. There are no special requirements regarding academic integrity in this course. The code will be strictly enforced and is binding on the students. Grade and academic evaluations in this course include a judgment that the student's work is free from academic dishonesty of any type; and grades in this course, therefore, should be and will be adversely affected by academic dishonesty. Students who violate the code can be expelled from ISU. The typical penalty for a first offense is zero credit on the work involving dishonesty and further substantial reduction of the course grade. Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course. Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to me immediately. The policy on academic integrity can be found at the following website: www.indstate.edu/sjp.

STATEMENT ON DISCLOSURE OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

August 26, 2015

Indiana State University fosters a campus free of sexual misconduct including sexual harassment, sexual violence, intimate partner violence, and stalking and/or any form of sex or gender discrimination. If you disclose a potential violation of the sexual misconduct policy, the Title IX Coordinator will need to be notified. Students who have experienced sexual misconduct are encouraged to contact confidential resources listed below. To make a report or the Title IX Coordinator, visit the Equal Opportunity and Title IX website: <http://www.indstate.edu/equalopportunity-titleix/titleix>.

The ISU Student Counseling Center - Hulman Memorial Student Union 7th Floor; 812-237-3939; www.indstate.edu/cns

The ISU Victim Advocate - Trista Gibbons; Hulman Memorial Student Union 7th Floor; 812-237-3939 (office); 812-230-3803 (cell); trista.gibbons@indstate.edu

Campus Ministries - <http://www2.indstate.edu/sao/campusministries.htm>;

For more information on your rights and available resources:
<http://www.indstate.edu/equalopportunity-titleix/titleix>

SCHEDULE OF CLASS SESSIONS

DATE	TOPIC
Monday, March 7	Introduction; discussion of syllabus; discussion of course Blackboard site; expectations; introductions by students
Wednesday, March 9	Weather on the Web
Monday, March 14	SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS
Wednesday, March 16	SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS
Monday, March 21	SHORT ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE; The Atmosphere
Wednesday, March 23	Information Literacy #1
Monday, March 28	SHORT ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE; Global Weather
Wednesday, March 30	QUIZ 1; Clouds
Monday, April 4	SHORT ASSIGNMENT #3 DUE; Information Literacy #2
Wednesday, April 6	QUIZ 2; Synoptic Meteorology

Monday, April 11	SHORT ASSIGNMENT #4 DUE; Thunderstorms; Illiana SKYWARN
Wednesday, April 13	QUIZ 3; Upper Air
Monday, April 18	SHORT ASSIGNMENT #5 DUE; Lightning
Wednesday, April 20	QUIZ 4; TERM PAPER DUE; Radar
Monday, April 25	Sustainability – Climate change
Wednesday, April 27	Review
Monday, May 2	FINALS WEEK: NO CLASS
Wednesday, May 4	Final Exam 1:00 p.m.