

ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES (ATMS)

ATMS Class Schedule (<https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/ATMS>)

Courses

ATMS 100 Introduction to Meteorology credit: 3 Hours.

Introduces the student to the basic concepts and principles of meteorology via the interpretation of weather maps and charts; uses current weather information to illustrate key concepts, emphasizes the physical atmospheric processes responsible for weather. By the end of the class students will be able to interpret and make basic weather forecasts as well as be able to explain basic atmospheric phenomena. Same as GEOG 100.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Nat Sci Tech - Phys Sciences

ATMS 120 Severe and Hazardous Weather credit: 3 Hours.

Most extreme manifestations of weather and climate are analyzed in terms of their physical basis and their historical, economic and human consequences. Emphasis is placed on the interplay between technological advances, the evolution of meteorology as a science, and the impacts of extreme weather (winter storms, floods, severe thunderstorms, hurricanes, El Nino). Technological advances include satellites, weather radars and profilers, and computer models used for weather prediction. Same as ESE 120.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Nat Sci Tech - Phys Sciences
Quantitative Reasoning II

ATMS 140 Climate and Global Change credit: 3 Hours.

Introduces climate change and its interactions with the global environment; surveys the physical, chemical, biological and social factors contributing to global change; includes topics such as greenhouse warming, acid rain, ozone depletion, distinguishes anthropogenic influences and natural variability of the earth system; addresses societal impacts, mitigation strategies, policy options and other human responses to global change. Same as ESE 140.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Nat Sci Tech - Phys Sciences

ATMS 199 Undergraduate Open Seminar credit: 1 to 5 Hours.

Special topics each term. May be repeated.

ATMS 201 General Physical Meteorology credit: 3 Hours.

Introduction to physical processes in the atmosphere, focusing on those relevant to weather and storms. Emphasizes quantitative problem solving. Topics include atmospheric structure, atmospheric thermodynamics, clouds, synoptic meteorology, weather forecasting, and storms. For students in atmospheric sciences, physics, mathematics, engineering, and other physical and natural sciences. Prerequisite: MATH 220 or MATH 221; credit or concurrent registration in MATH 231 and PHYS 211.

ATMS 205 Introduction to Computational Geosciences credit: 3 Hours.

Enables students to use computers to solve real-world problems in the geosciences. Students will: Develop a fundamental level of programming knowledge, including Linux computing; Learn to use MATLAB and Python on local and remote computing systems to address geosciences problems; Understand the structure and use of geosciences datasets; Use computers for data representation, presentation and visualization; and Understand introductory methods for geosciences data reduction and statistical analysis. No programming background is required.

ATMS 301 Atmospheric Thermodynamics credit: 3 Hours.

Introduction to fundamental thermodynamic processes that occur in Earth's atmosphere. Defines, describes, and derives various thermodynamic concepts including (1) the conservation of energy, (2) laws of thermodynamics, (3) kinetic theory, (4) phase transitions of water, and (5) thermodynamic processes of the atmosphere. Applies thermodynamic concepts to atmospheric structure and stability, water phase transformations, and energy and mass transport within the atmosphere. Prerequisite: ATMS 201, MATH 241, and PHYS 211.

ATMS 302 Atmospheric Dynamics I credit: 3 Hours.

Introduction to fundamental dynamical processes in the atmosphere through a descriptive and quantitative analysis of dynamical meteorology at the synoptic and global scale. Covers basic laws of fluid mechanics as applied to the atmospheric sciences, vorticity and circulation in 2-D and 3-D flows, boundary layer dynamics and friction, basic concepts of geophysical waves, and baroclinic instability. These topics will be covered both descriptively and mathematically with emphasis on computer representation of the fundamental processes governing atmospheric motion and application of theory to real-world examples. Same as PHYS 329. Prerequisite: ATMS 201, MATH 241 and PHYS 211.

ATMS 303 Synoptic-Dynamic Wea Analysis credit: 4 Hours.

Conceptualizes the structure and dynamics of the atmosphere through interpretation and analysis of weather charts, time and cross sections, soundings, and forecast products. Students develop case studies of weather system structure, and participate in discussions of weather processes as depicted by weather maps. Depiction of atmospheric kinematic and dynamic processes on weather charts is emphasized. Students learn conceptual models of the structure of mid-latitude cyclones and convective weather systems, including cyclogenesis, frontogenesis, the process of storm intensification, occlusion and frontolysis. Prerequisite: ATMS 201 and credit or concurrent registration in MATH 241.

ATMS 304 Radiative Transfer-Remote Sens credit: 3 Hours.

Introduction to the laws governing the propagation of electromagnetic radiation in the Earth's atmosphere. Topics include absorption, emission, and scattering of radiation, absorption and scattering properties of atmospheric constituents, the Sun as a source of radiation, the radiative transfer equation, and simple radiative balance models. Emphasis will be placed on the role of radiation in weather and climate, the description of atmospheric optical phenomena, and the application to remote sensing. Prerequisite: MATH 241 and PHYS 212.

ATMS 305 Computing and Data Analysis credit: 3 Hours.

Introduction to the statistical treatment and graphical representation of atmospheric sciences data, both in the space and time domain. Emphasis is placed on applications and real-world examples. Discusses relevant statistics, methods of interpolation and least squares, and linear and nonlinear correlations. Students gain experience using PYTHON for data analysis, develop theoretical skills for analyzing and modeling data, and perform virtual experiments and analyze real-world publicly available data sets. Prerequisite: MATH 241 or consent of instructor.

ATMS 306 Cloud Physics credit: 3 Hours.

Develops an understanding of microphysical processes occurring within clouds through use of in-situ observations, modeling, and theoretical studies; topics covered include nucleation, diffusional growth of water and ice particles, the warm rain process, the cold rain process (including riming, aggregation, graupel and hail), weather modification, and an introduction to radar meteorology. Prerequisite: ATMS 301.

ATMS 307 Climate Processes credit: 3 Hours.

Introduces students to Earth's climates and the processes that determine them. Examines factors that control natural climate change over long and short time scales, processes by which humans impact climate and climate change, methods to predict climate change, and climate change response by policymakers. Prerequisite: ATMS 201.

ATMS 311 Environmental Issues Today credit: 3 Hours.

Same as ESE 311. See ESE 311.

ATMS 312 Atmospheric Dynamics II credit: 3 Hours.

Rigorous examination of the dynamical nature of various manifestations of the atmospheric circulation. Topics include the intrinsic effects of earth's rotation and stratification, vorticity and potential vorticity dynamics, various forms of boundary layer, wave dynamics (gravity waves and Rossby waves), geostrophic adjustment, cyclogenesis, frontogenesis and a potpourri of instability theories. Same as PHYS 330. Prerequisite: ATMS 301, ATMS 302.

ATMS 313 Synoptic Weather Forecasting credit: 4 Hours.

Examines the tools and techniques of weather forecasting, with heavy emphasis on actual forecasting. Numerical models used to forecast weather are reviewed and compared. Forecasting using numerical, statistical and probabilistic forecasting techniques is studied. Forecasts of significant winter weather, convection, floods and other weather hazards are emphasized. Students learn the process behind Severe Weather Watches and Warnings, Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts, precipitation type forecasts, flood forecasts and forecasts of other significant weather. Prerequisite: ATMS 302, ATMS 303 or consent of instructor.

ATMS 314 Mesoscale Dynamics credit: 3 Hours.

Examination of the structure and dynamics of weather systems that occur on the mesoscale. The course first reviews what is meant by "mesoscale". Examines the structure and dynamics of both free and forced mesoscale circulations. Free circulations are those internal to the atmosphere, such as thunderstorms, mesoscale convective systems, squall lines, hurricanes, jet streaks, and fronts. Forced circulations are those tied to features external to the atmosphere, such as shorelines (the sea breeze), lakes (lake effect storms), and mountains. Prerequisite: ATMS 301, ATMS 302, ATMS 303, or consent of instructor.

ATMS 315 Meteorological Instrumentation credit: 3 Hours.

Introduction to the instruments and meteorology of measuring weather variables. The focus is to explore modern methods of weather observation while training each student to gather, assess and interpret weather data. This class will also focus on research applications, and industrial applications in addition to routine weather observation. Prerequisite: ATMS 201.

ATMS 322 Soc Impacts Weather & Climate credit: 3 Hours.

Examines the interconnectedness of weather, climate and society. Focus is on the complex relationship between weather, climate and society from both a physical and social perspective with an examination of the role of sustainability in both impacts and future mitigation. Discussions focused on the physical principles driving the weather and climate and how they interact with all aspects of society. Same as ENSU 301.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci

ATMS 323 Air Pollution to Global Change credit: 3 Hours.

Develops the science of air pollution across spatial scales with an Earth-systems approach. Considers how fossil fuel combustion, agriculture development, waste generation, synthetic chemicals production, biomass burning, and changes in land use are significantly altering levels of radiatively and chemically active gases and aerosols in the atmosphere, and how these pollutants interact at local, regional, and global scales. The systems nature of the processes through which air pollution is linked to global change will be examined via integrated science assessment modeling that includes feedbacks from societal policies, industrial practices, and human populations. Same as ENSU 302.

ATMS 324 Field Studies of Convection credit: 2 Hours.

Students learn to recognize the structural features characteristic of supercellular convection, organized mesoscale convective systems, frontal squall lines, and ordinary thunderstorms, and to relate these structures to theory and conceptual models. Students forecast atmospheric convection, providing daily meteorological forecast discussions and analysis of current and future weather conditions. This course includes a mandatory 12-14 day field trip. Additional fees may apply. See Class Schedule. Approved for S/U grading only. May be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: ATMS 201. ATMS Majors or Minors only with consent of instructor.

ATMS 391 Topics in Atmospheric Sciences credit: 1 to 3 Hours.

Special topics in atmospheric sciences at the undergraduate level. See Class Schedule for topics and prerequisites. Additional fees may apply. See Class Schedule. May be repeated in the same or separate terms to a maximum of 12 hours if topics vary.

ATMS 401 Applied Meteorology credit: 3 Hours.

Examines how providers of meteorological information work with stakeholders who value that information to develop decision support systems in fields such as aviation, hydrometeorology, energy, health, national security, transportation, agriculture, emergency management, air quality, and climate sustainability. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours.

ATMS 404 Risk Analysis in Earth Science credit: 3 or 4 Hours.

Introduction to concepts and methods of quantitative risk analysis in the Earth system. Key concepts will include probability, impacts, risk, uncertainty, statistical estimation, and decision making. Students will use simple risk analysis methods to apply these concepts to example problems related to drought, flooding, weather extremes, and anthropogenic climate change. The students will learn the R programming language for statistical computing, which will be used to integrate concepts and methods using observational data sets and model output. Same as GEOL 485. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: MATH 241 or consent of instructor.

ATMS 405 Boundary Layer Processes credit: 4 Hours.

Course will qualitatively and quantitatively describe atmospheric boundary layer characteristics and processes. The course will focus on the turbulent structure of the boundary layer and the factors that influence this structure over a variety of surfaces (e.g., soil, vegetation, marine) and under a variety of atmospheric conditions (e.g., stability, diurnal/nocturnal). This atmospheric layer is important to our daily lives because it is where humans live and it connects the small-scale fluxes of energy and mass to the large-scale atmospheric circulation. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: ATMS 301, ATMS 302, and ATMS 304; MATH 285; or consent of instructor.

ATMS 406 Tropical Meteorology credit: 4 Hours.

Covers the mesoscale, synoptic scale and planetary scale motions in the tropical circulation. Emphasis will be on delineating the unique characteristics of tropical dynamics. Topics include Hadley circulation, Walker circulation, Madden-Julian oscillation, monsoons, easterly waves, equatorial waves, hurricanes, the quasi-biennial oscillation, El Niño and the Southern Oscillation. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: ATMS 301 and ATMS 302 and MATH 285; or consent of instructor.

ATMS 410 Radar Remote Sensing credit: 4 Hours.

Basic principles of radar and references to other ground based remote sensing systems, with emphasis on radar. Discusses principles of conventional and Doppler radar, data processing, and use of Doppler radar in meteorology. Emphasizes radar observations of meteorological phenomena, such as severe thunderstorms and wind shear. Students analyze data from national radar facilities. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: ATMS 201 and MATH 231 and credit or concurrent registration in MATH 241; or consent of instructor.

ATMS 411 Satellite Remote Sensing credit: 4 Hours.

Review of the basic techniques used in satellite remote sensing of the Earth's surface and atmosphere, as well as other planets in our solar system. Topics include radiative transfer, scattering and absorption processes, the Sun, mathematics of inversion, atmospheric properties and constituents, surface properties, precipitation, radiation budgets, image classification, satellite technology and orbital configurations. Laboratory work on radiative transfer modeling and satellite data analysis emphasized. All students participate in a team project that has novel and practical applications. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: MATH 285 and PHYS 212.

ATMS 420 Atmospheric Chemistry credit: 4 Hours.

Biochemical cycles of atmospheric trace gases, their interactions on global and regional scales, and their significance for the chemistry in the atmosphere. Important fundamental concepts central to understanding air pollutants, e.g., the formation of aerosols and the transformation and removal of species in the atmosphere. Same as CEE 447. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: CHEM 102, PHYS 211, and MATH 241.

ATMS 421 Earth Systems Modeling credit: 4 Hours.

Introduction to systems modeling with applications to the earth and environmental sciences. Basic systems concepts and systems thinking in the contexts of hydrological, climatic, geochemical, and other environmentally relevant systems. Students identify key processes and relationships in systems, represent these elements quantitatively in models, test the models, use them to predict system behavior, and assess the validity of the predictions. No special mathematical or computing background is required. Same as ESE 421, GEOG 421, GEOL 481, and NRES 422. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Junior, senior, or graduate standing in a natural science, geography, natural resources and environmental studies, or engineering.

ATMS 422 Environmental Stable Isotopes credit: 3 Hours.

Same as GEOL 488, IB 488, and NRES 478. See IB 488.

ATMS 425 Air Quality Modeling credit: 4 Hours.

Same as CEE 445. See CEE 445.

ATMS 446 Climate & Social Vulnerability credit: 3 or 4 Hours.

Same as GEOG 496 and SOC 451. See GEOG 496.

ATMS 447 Climate Change Assessment credit: 3 Hours.

Provides students with first-hand experience with computer models used to study climate change and permits them to test hypotheses, develop scenarios, learn about the implications of various structures of the modeled system, and evaluate the climatic impacts of anthropogenic emissions. Students perform calculations and produce model scenarios using a web interface to our Integrated Science Assessment Model (ISAM). 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours.

ATMS 449 Biogeochemical Cycles credit: 4 Hours.

Presents the key physical, biological, and chemical concepts of biogeochemical cycles central to understanding the causes of global changes in climate and air quality, focusing on an atmospheric sciences view of these cycles and their influences. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

ATMS 490 Individual Study credit: 1 to 4 Hours.

Individual study or reading at an advanced undergraduate level in a subject not covered in normal course offerings. 1 to 4 undergraduate hours. 1 to 4 graduate hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. May not be used to satisfy requirements for an M.S. or Ph.D. degree in Atmospheric Sciences. Prerequisite: Consent of advisor and of staff member supervising work.

ATMS 491 Adv Topics in Atmospheric Sci credit: 2 to 4 Hours.

Special topics in atmospheric sciences. See Class Schedule for topics and prerequisites. 2 to 4 undergraduate hours. 2 to 4 graduate hours. May be repeated in the same or separate terms as topic varies to a maximum of 12 hours.

ATMS 492 Capstone Undergraduate Research credit: 4 Hours.

All senior Atmospheric Sciences undergraduate majors have the opportunity to take a Capstone Undergraduate Research experience. Students will either be engaged in an atmospheric science research project or will participate in an approved internship program with an agency involved in atmospheric science research or in meteorological operations. A research or internship project will be with a program at UIUC or with an allied organization. The student will need to first gain approval for their research or internship. 4 undergraduate hours. No graduate credit. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 undergraduate hours. Prerequisite: Senior standing in Atmospheric Sciences, or permission of Department Head.

ATMS 500 Dynamic Meteorology credit: 4 Hours.

Examines the observed behavior of the atmosphere through the application of physical and hydrodynamical principles to analyses of real meteorological data; develops concepts for studying atmospheric circulations, particularly extratropical cyclones and anticyclones. Laboratory work includes the development of diagnostic techniques suitable for a better understanding of the current weather.

ATMS 501 Mesoscale Meteorology credit: 4 Hours.

Basic concepts and ideas on atmospheric processes that occur on scales of motions from a few kilometers to a few hundred kilometers, a scale loosely classified by meteorologists as "mesoscale". After an introductory discussion of mesoscale classifications and attendant forecast problems, the course will introduce various mesoscale phenomena, internally generated circulations, externally forced circulations, and mesoscale instabilities. Covers all three fundamental aspects of mesoscale meteorology: observations, theory and modeling, with particular emphasis on the dynamics of precipitating mesoscale systems. 4 graduate hours. No professional credit. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

ATMS 502 Numerical Fluid Dynamics credit: 4 Hours.

Addresses numerical techniques for solving linear and nonlinear differential equations in initial value fluid flow problems. Students receive a thorough background in the principles used to evaluate numerical methods, the ability to critically interpret these methods as presented in the literature, and in particular, the practical application of these techniques in modeling multi-dimensional flow on high-performance computers. Temporal and directional splitting, finite differencing/volume methods, and adaptive nesting will be discussed. Same as CSE 566. 4 graduate hours. No professional credit. Prerequisite: MATH 285 or equivalent. Graduate Standing or Consent of Instructor.

ATMS 504 Physical Meteorology credit: 4 Hours.

Examines the physical processes that occur in the atmosphere. Topics include atmospheric thermodynamics, cloud physics and atmospheric radiation. 4 graduate hours. No professional credit. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

ATMS 505 Weather Systems credit: 4 Hours.

Examination of the structure and dynamics of mid-latitude weather systems, integrating weather observations, with the current state of dynamic theory, numerical weather prediction models, and the physical principles of atmospheric thermodynamics, cloud and precipitation physics, and radiation to the problems of weather analysis and forecasting. Students will be required to give weather forecast briefings to develop an understanding of the weather forecasting process, and gain experience in communicating weather forecasts. 4 graduate hours. No professional credit. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

ATMS 507 Climate Dynamics credit: 4 Hours.

Investigates the dynamical and physical processes that govern Earth's paleo, current, and future climates. Emphasizes principles of climate change, natural and anthropogenic, and regional, national, and global. Global climate models and their predictions are examined in the context of scenarios for future population growth and energy consumption. 4 graduate hours. No professional credit. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

ATMS 510 Precipitation Physics credit: 4 Hours.

Develops an understanding of precipitation processes through cloud observations, microphysics, dynamics, and comprehensive theoretical models; includes growth by condensation, coalescence, and riming; and studies ice crystals, hail, and weather modification. Prerequisite: ATMS 504 or consent of the instructor.

ATMS 511 Atmospheric Radiation credit: 4 Hours.

Physical concepts and various methods of analysis of radiation scattering by atmospheric molecules, particulates, and clouds; infrared radiative transfer in a stratified inhomogeneous atmosphere; radiation and ozone photochemistry in the stratosphere; and remote temperature and composition sensing techniques using satellite radiation data. Prerequisite: ATMS 504 or consent of the instructor.

ATMS 512 Clouds and Climate credit: 4 Hours.

The following topics are addressed to examine the role of clouds in the climate system: aerosols and aerosol cloud interactions, direct, semi-direct and indirect aerosol effects, in-situ measurements of clouds, properties of liquid and ice clouds, precipitation mechanisms and representation in models, scattering by cloud particles and model representations, remote sensing of cloud properties, and representation of clouds in climate models. Prerequisite: ATMS 504 or consent of instructor.

ATMS 535 Aerosol Sampling and Analysis credit: 4 Hours.

Same as CEE 545. See CEE 545.

ATMS 571 Professional Development credit: 1 Hour.

Aimed at professional development in the atmospheric sciences so that students recognize the importance of breadth of knowledge, effective oral and written scientific communication, and other skills they will need as professionals. 1 graduate hour. No professional credit. Approved for S/U grading only. Prerequisite: Graduate student in Atmospheric Sciences or consent of instructor.

ATMS 590 Individual Study credit: 2 to 4 Hours.

Individual study or reading in a subject not covered in normal course offerings. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

ATMS 591 Atmospheric Sciences Seminar credit: 0 Hours.

Seminar on topics of current interest. Approved for S/U grading only. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

ATMS 596 Non-Thesis Research credit: 0 to 12 Hours.

Non-thesis research in the Atmospheric Sciences. Approved for S/U grading only. May be repeated. No more than 4 hours may be counted toward a master's degree in ATMS. Prerequisite: Restricted to students in the non-thesis option.

ATMS 597 Special Topics in Atmospheric Sciences credit: 0 to 4 Hours.

Lecture course in topics of current interest; subjects such as tropical meteorology, aerosol physics, and geophysical fluid dynamics will be covered in term offerings on a regular basis. 0 to 4 graduate hours. No professional credit. Approved for Letter and S/U grading. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

ATMS 599 Thesis Research credit: 0 to 16 Hours.

Check with the department to identify which CRN is needed for your advisor and any related registration questions. Approved for S/U grading only. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.