# Geography 333C - Severe and Unusual Weather (Unique # 37805) Fall Semester 2013

**LOCATION AND TIME:** CLA 1.102, TTh 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm

**INSTRUCTOR:** Troy Kimmel, Senior Lecturer CV BIO (Email: tkimmel@austin.utexas.edu )
**TEACHING ASSTS:** Xuebin Yang(yxbfuture@utexas.edu)/Jonathan Lowell(jonathan.t.lowell@utexas.edu)
**OFFICE:** Liberal Arts Building (CLA), Room 3.412
**OFFICE HOURS:** M 1-3pm, TuTh 10:15-11am & 1:45-2:45pm; W 11:00am-1:00pm / other times by appt
**PHONES:** Home Office 335-6472 (At times other than office hours)
UT Office 232-1590 (Office hours only), UT Geography Switchboard 471-5116

**GRADING PROCEDURE:**
You will have the opportunity to earn 400 points during the semester.

At the end of the semester, when utilizing the UT "Plus" / "Minus" Final Grade Grading System and applying it to our 400 point grading system...
360-373 = A- (GPA earned = 3.67), 374-400 = A (GPA earned = 4.00)
320-331 = B- (GPA earned = 2.67), 332-345 = B (GPA earned = 3.00), 346-359 = B+ (GPA earned = 3.33)
280-291 = C- (GPA earned = 1.67), 292-305 = C (GPA earned = 2.00), 306-319 = C+ (GPA earned = 2.33)
240-251 = D- (GPA earned = 0.67), 252-265 = D (GPA earned = 1.00), 266-279 = D+ (GPA earned = 1.33)
0-239 = F (GPA earned = 0.00)

There will be three exams during the semester (multiple choice, true false, matching, short answer and essay). Each of the exams will be cumulative in nature since topics covered early in the semester are used when looking at the individual types of severe and unusual weather during the remainder of the semester. Each of these exams will count 100 points (for a total of 300 points). Makeup examinations will be essay style and will only be given at the discretion of the instructor with an official university excuse. Class participation/attendance, homework and class exercises will count for an additional 100 points; homework and class exercises not turned in on date assigned will have a point(s) penalty . There will be no final examination.

If you have a question regarding your exams, it is your responsibility to visit during office hours when we will access your copy of the exam. Any questions regarding exams will be brought forth within one week of the exam return date otherwise the grade is considered final.

**DAILY WEATHER BRIEFINGS**
Depending on ongoing weather, there will be weather briefings, led by the instructor, which will be held at the beginning of class. Students are expected to be aware of the overall weather pattern before class so that meaningful class discussions can be held.

**TEXTBOOK/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:**
We will be utilizing a textbook as well as a number of instructional materials, including on line web modules.

Severe and Hazardous Weather (4th Edition, 2012) - Kendall-Hunt; Rauber, Walsh and Charlevoix
On Line Exercise Manual (required for class): http://webcom8.grtxle.com/index.cfm?cu=severeweather

The textbook is available at the University Coop and other university area bookstores as well as on the web. Kendall Hunt Publishing offers the book as well as their e book for purchase on line as well..
http://www.kendallhunt.com/store-product.aspx?id=68409
Shop around for the best price.

Here are some additional on line links that will be useful in class:

METARS / Surface Weather Observations Tutorial (METAR Decoding Exercise)
NCAR / World Wide Location Identifier List (NWS Location ID Query System)
Kimmel's Cloud /Precipitation Types Tutorial (On Line Learning Module)
Kimmel's Severe and Unusual Weather Tutorial (On Line Learning Module)
Koppen Climate Classification Flow Chart

**NCDC / Local Annual LCD Documents in PDF** **(Tx Climate Norms:** 1971-2000 /1981-2010)
Austin Bergstrom Intl Airport (ID: KAUS):
1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012
Austin City (Camp Mabry) (ID: KATT):
1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**:
The University of Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY, 866-329-3986 video phone.
If you have documentation regarding accommodations from the Dean of Students office, you must meet with me, in person and during office hours, as early as possible in the semester to discuss exact accommodations. Provisions provided by this documentation are not provided until the date you meet with me; they will not be offered retroactively. When you come to this meeting, you will be required to provide written documentation from the Services for Students with Disabilities.

**CLASSROOM / CAMPUS EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS:**
The status of University of Texas campus activities in times of emergency (i.e., severe/inclement weather) along with some important procedures in case of emergencies on our campus as well as in our classrooms can always be found on the University of Texas Emergency Web Page.
The University of Texas maintains Emergency Action Plans that addresses emergencies that could potentially affect the our community. You can reference the various plans here.
Our UT Siren System is used in times of emergencies when it is necessary for you to "shelter in place" in campus buildings (remain in or go to the nearest building on campus when the siren is activated and remain there until the "all clear" is given). The UT Siren System, as part of policy, is
tested monthly on the first Wednesday of every month between 11:50 am and 12:00 noon. Please don't take the siren system tests for granted; be ready to take action if the siren system is activated!
We will discuss, during the first class day of the session, our emergency plan for our specific classroom in case of fire, severe/inclement weather and other different situations. Please take this discussion seriously and ask any questions that you may have!!

**UT POLICY ON EMAIL NOTIFICATION**
Instructor to student email is a recognized and accepted form of official communication here at the University of Texas. For the University policy, read this. It is critically important that (1) you make sure to have your current and most frequently checked email address on file in UT Direct and (2) you check it on a daily basis. I will send class email frequently during the semester and you'll be given updates and change notices in references to lectures as well as exams.

**GEOGRAPHY 333C (FALL SESSION 2013) TENTATIVE CLASS MATERIAL OUTLINE**

Please note that all dates on the syllabus are very tentative and can and will change during the semester. The first two test dates are not specifically listed on the syllabus; exact dates will be announced in class a week (or more) ahead of time.

| DATE | SUBJECT MATTER | TEXT CHAPTERS |
|---|---|---|
| 29 Aug | Properties of the Atmosphere | Ch 1 |
| 05 - 10Sep | Meteorological Measurements | Ch 2 |
| 12 - 17 Sep | Weather Maps | Ch 3 |
| 19 Sep | Forecasting and Simulating Severe Weather | Ch 4 |

**– EXAM #1 –**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 26 Sep-01Oct | Atmospheric Stability / Forces and Force Balances | Ch 6, 7 |
| 03 Oct | The Development of High/Low Pressure Areas/Air Masses and Fronts | Ch 8, 9 |
| 08 - 10 Oct | Extratropical Cyclones | Ch 10, 11 |
| 22 - 24 Oct | Thunderstorms - Hazards Associated with Thunderstorms | Ch 18 |
| 29 - 31 Oct | Tornadoes | Ch 19 |

**– EXAM #2 –**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7 Nov | Hail Storms | Ch 20 |
| 12 Nov | Floods | Ch 25 |
| 14 Nov | Downbursts | Ch 22 |
| 19 Nov | Lightning | Ch 21 |
| 21 Nov | Tropical Cyclones | Ch 24 |
| 26 Nov | Drought | Ch 26 |
| 03 Dec | Cold /Heat Waves, Ice Storms | Ch 12,14 |
| | Southern Oscillation | Ch 23 |

**– EXAM #3 –**

**Thursday / 5 Dec 2013 - 12:30pm-1:45pm**

Last updated 08/26/2013 - tmk