

Intro to Global Change

GC 170A1 SP14 001

M/W/F: 12:00 – 12:50 pm

Kuiper Space Science, Room 308

Instructor: Dr. Erica Bigio, Adjunct Lecturer, Laboratory of Tree-ring Research
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TA: Robert Shepard, Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research/School of Natural Resources
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Office hours:

Erica: Wednesday 10 am – noon, and by appointment

Rob: Tuesday/Thursday, 11 am - noon, and by appointment

Office Location: (see map at end)

3rd Floor cubicle area

Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research

1215 E. Lowell Street

Course synopsis: Introduction to Global Change presents the basics of physical science within the context of global environmental changes (greenhouse effect, climatic variability, global warming, ozone depletion, deforestation, etc.) that impact Earth and its inhabitants. The course involves traditional lecture combined with in-class activities and discussions.

The course is one of the Tier I General Education natural science courses of the GC-170A, The Earth and Its Environments. It includes an overview of three key concepts governing physical and chemical processes: (1) the atomic structure of matter, (2) the role of electromagnetism in nature, (3) the laws of thermodynamics governing energy transfer.

Course logistics:

D2L: Access the D2L course site for the course schedule, assignments, additional readings, **reading quizzes** and grades. Aside from RQ's, all assignments will be submitted in person.

Textbooks:

1) Our first text book is an electronic version of six chapters taken from the *Earth System* by Kump, Kasting and Crane (2010) and one chapter from *Physics Concepts and Connections* by Hopson (2010). You have online access to the chapters with the brochure you purchased from the Pearson publishing company.

2) Our second textbook is *Dire Predictions, Understanding Global Warming* by Mann and Kump (2009).

Assignments and Grading:

Graded Assignments	Points	Proportion
Reading Quizzes (5*10 pts)	50	5%
Individual assignments (3*30 pts)	90	9%
In-Class activity (8*10 pts)**	160	16%
Tests (4*50 pts)	200	20%
Mid-term exam	200	20%
Final exam	200	20%
Sustainability Term project	100	10%
Total for the semester	1000	

** There will be nine In-class activities total. If a student completes all 9, then 10 points can be transferred to another category

→ You will be provided with a grading rubric for the Sustainability Term Project

Letter grades will be assigned according to the proportion of total points:

A (90 – 100%); B (80 – 89%); C (65 – 80%); D (55 – 65%); E (< 55%)

Extra credit opportunities: by arrangement with instructor

Students with Disabilities: Please see the instructor.

Reading quizzes: These are conducted in D2L. They will be available one week before the due date.

Late work: 10% of total points for an assignment will be deducted for each day that an assignment is late. Exceptions to this may be arranged with the instructor.

Missed class: Lectures will be posted to D2L. If you missed an in-class activity, test or exam, you need to contact the instructor immediately. Arrangements can be made for making up the work.

Final Exam Date: Friday, May 9th, 1 – 3 pm

Cell phones are not allowed during class!

Please be quiet when entering late or leaving early.

Laptops are allowed, but please be considerate of students around you.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is using others' ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of the information. Papers with identical or similar wording are not acceptable and are a form of plagiarism. **DO NOT DO IT -- EVER!** In your written work, do not copy anything word-for-word from any source (including another student!) without putting it in quotes and referencing it. Plagiarism can sometimes be done without intent, if you have questions please review the following website: <http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/>

Academic Code of Conduct:

According to the Code: *"Integrity and ethical behavior are expected of every student in all academic work. This Academic Integrity principle stands for honesty in all class work, and ethical conduct in all labs and clinical assignments."*

Cheating, fabrication and academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to the DOS policy: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity>

Map of Tree-ring Lab (Office location for Erica and Rob, 3rd Floor cubicle area):

