

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: GEOG-272-Weather and Climate

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: 2024F

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): In Person

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

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## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Stephanie Kirkland-Kuisma

EMAIL: kirklandkuismas@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Paul 237

HOURS: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 to 1:30

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

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## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course explores the nature and function of Earth's atmosphere. Topics include atmospheric composition and structure, insolation, atmospheric circulation, humidity and precipitation, and weather systems. Climate diversity and change (natural and anthropogenic) will be examined in detail. Lab activities will introduce methods for sampling and analyzing weather and climate data.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

C in ENGL 151

C in ENGL 161

C in ENGL 163

C in ENGL 164

CO-REQUISITE(S):

EQUIVALENCIES:

#### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Describe the structure and function of Earth's atmosphere in order to understand weather and climate systems.
2. Describe the influence of water and the hydrologic cycle on weather and climate.
3. Discuss human influence on the atmosphere.
4. Collect and analyze weather and climate data in order to interpret atmospheric conditions.

#### REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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##### **Optional**

Ahrens, C.D., Henson, R. (2022) *Meteorology Today: An Introduction to Weather, Climate and the Environment, Thirteenth Edition*.

The eBook is available for sale in the Camosun Bookstore. There are also books placed on reserve in the Camosun Library.

<https://www.campusbookstore.com/link/?id=09745152-93f8-4808-8f30-5d352fe3df59>

Similar introductory atmospheric science texts by Ahrens (American editions), Aguado & Burt, Lutgens & Tarbuck, Ross or others could be substituted, but details and examples will vary.

This online text is not bad: Fundamentals of Physical Geography.

<http://www.physicalgeography.net/>

The key thing is to be reading on the subject matter at hand!

#### COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

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The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK of:	LECTURE TOPIC	ACTIVITY
September 2	Course Introduction	Lab 1
September 9	Atmosphere Composition and Structure	Lab 2
September 16	Energy	Lab 3
September 23	Temperature	Lab 4
September 30		<b>Exam # 1</b>
October 7	Pressure and Wind	Lab 5
October 14	Atmospheric Circulation	Lab 6
October 21	Water in the Atmosphere	Lab 7
October 28	Stability and Precipitation	Lab 8
November 4		<b>Exam # 2</b>
November 11th	Weather I	Lab 9
November 18th	Weather II	
November 25th	Global Climate	Lab 10
December 2	Earth's Changing Climate	<b>TERM PROJECT DUE</b>
December 9-17	Final Exam Period	<b>Test # 3</b>

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](#).

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

#### EVALUATION OF LEARNING

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DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Lab Assignments	20 %

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Test # 1	20 %
Test # 2	20 %
Test # 3	20 %
Term Project	20 %
	<b>TOTAL</b>
	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](#) policy for more information.

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf>

## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

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There are multiple components to this course.

### **Readings:**

Readings are optional but provide indispensable depth and context, and a different perspective on the subject matter. Reading assignments are detailed below. If you opt to use a textbook other than Ahrens, make sure you are reading the relevant chapters for the week's material.

### **Labs:**

There are ten labs to complete. We have scheduled lab time from 10:30 to 12:20 on Thursdays. Consistent participation will improve the learning experience and increase the odds of success for you and everyone else. Please read the lab assignments ahead of time. Computer access will be required for most of the assignments as you will be referencing a variety of websites and data sources.

### **Weather Project:**

Students will monitor the local weather for a week and analyse what happened using weather data and maps. The project requires a formal written report. See details in the project handout.

### **Tests:**

There will be three theory tests that covers both lecture and lab content. The format for these will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and long answer questions. Exams #1 and Exam #2 will be given during lab times on Thursdays. The first exam is October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Exam #2 is on November 7<sup>th</sup> and Exam #3 will be given during the Final Exam Period, TBA.

Copying, plagiarism and/or cheating is not permitted. Please familiarize yourself with Camosun's student conduct policies. This is also posted on D2L.

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advanced noticed is required. Deadlines scan be reviewed on the CAL exams page. <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

## SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-arts-science/arts-science-subjects/geography>

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of college property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit [camosun.ca/services](http://camosun.ca/services).

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre">camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services">camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards">camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services">camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international">camosun.ca/international</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>

Support Service	Website
Library	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/library">camosun.ca/services/library</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/office-student-support">camosun.ca/services/office-student-support</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson">camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson</a>
Registration	<a href="https://camosun.ca/registration-records/registration">camosun.ca/registration-records/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/its">camosun.ca/services/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>  
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines: <https://camosun.ca/cal>

### Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education](https://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education).

To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

### Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

### Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

**Changes to this Syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.