

**Master Syllabus**  
***Department of Geography***

**GEOG 640: Special Topics in Atmospheric Science**

**Course Description**

The study of a topic in atmospheric science within the expertise of the instructor. Examples include such areas as land-surface-atmosphere interactions, meso-scale meteorology, hydroclimatology, climate change, and tropical weather and climate. (1-6 credits: A total of 6 hours of credit may be earned, but no more than 3 in any one semester or term).

Prerequisite: GEOG 530

**Course Objectives**

The objectives of the course are to:

- Examine a content area of atmospheric science in great depth
- Assess the current research in said topic
- Investigate said topic within the greater realm of atmospheric science

**Course Rationale**

This course is designed to permit graduate students to study a subdiscipline of atmospheric science in which the instructor holds considerable knowledge and proficiency.

**Course Content and Format**

The course material will depend upon the topic and instructor. It is designed to function as a seminar and may include primary or secondary research within the chosen topic. Students are actively encouraged to participate in discussions, as well as deliver presentations on relevant topics or journal articles.

**Textbook Suggestions**

Textbooks and other relevant course materials will depend on the topic and the instructor.

### **Methods for Evaluating Student Performance:**

Student performance will be evaluated via some combination of the following methods:

- Examinations
- Homework exercises
- Participation in class discussions
- Group presentations or projects
- Presentations
- Term papers
- Contribution to primary or secondary research

### **Evaluation of the Course**

Student evaluation of the course will be accomplished using university (and departmental) course evaluation forms. Departmental evaluation may include peer or chair evaluations.