

# SAMPLE SYLLABUS

## Climate Change

### ENVST-UA 9226/ ANTH-UA 9061 L01

NYU London: Fall 2022

#### Instructor Information

- Dr. Lisa Weber
- Zoom, appointment only

#### Instruction Mode: In-person

#### Course Details

- Thursdays 1-3.45pm BST (from October 30th, GMT)
- Location: NYU London, 6 Bedford Sq., Room: TBA

#### Course Description

Climate change is among the most complex and challenging problems that we have confronted as a civilisation. The content of this course is designed to give you an introduction to the physical science of climate change (Note: This course is mostly a science class and not a social-economics class). We will explore the complex and interdisciplinary issues related to Climate Change and the basic mechanisms that govern how the climate system responds to drivers of change. For that we will look into the current state of scientific research, combining multiple lines of research from observations, process understanding, paleoclimate, and global climate models. Furthermore we will look into the global difficulty to effectively put measures into place to combat climate change, to gain a better understanding about the outcomes of the last global climate summit in Glasgow, UK, November 2021 and the expectations for the next climate conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, November 2022.

A typical session will start with an hour long lecture followed by more practical group work for consolidate learning.

#### Course Objectives

At the end of the semester you should be able to:

- Explain how the climate system works.
- Understand the physical basis of climate change.
- Describe how human activities are influencing greenhouse gas emissions.

# SAMPLE SYLLABUS

- Investigate projections about past and possible future climate change on Earth.

## Assessment Components

<b>Assignments / Activities</b>	<b>Description of Assignment</b>	<b>% of Final Grade</b>	<b>Due</b>
Weekly Homework Assignments	Weekly lab & reading assignments.	25 %	TBA
Paper Review Assignment (Group Work)	Preparation and presentation of a scientific paper.	15%	TBA
Essay (Group work)	Semester project group work.	15%	Dec. 1st
Midterm Exam	Assessment of the student's understanding of the Climate System	20%	Oct. 13th
Final Exam	Assessment of the student's understanding of the Climate System	25%	TBA

## Assessment Expectations

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Grade Percentage</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>A-range</b>	A = 93-100% A- = 90-92%	Excellent understanding of the course content, applying theoretical and conceptual issues.*
<b>B-range</b>	B+ = 87-89% B = 84-86% B- = 80-83%	Good understanding of the course content, reasonable application of theoretical and conceptual issues.*
<b>C-range</b>	C+ = 77-79% C = 74-76% C- = 70-73%	Some general understanding. Nevertheless mostly superficial understanding which misses some essential elements.*
<b>D-range</b>	D+ = 67-69%	Lacking in understanding of the course content. Poor

# SAMPLE SYLLABUS

Letter Grade	Grade Percentage	Description
	D = 65-66%	attention to essential details. Nevertheless a vague and general idea of the basic concepts.*
F	F = below 65%	Lacking in understanding and misunderstanding of the course content. Lack of attention to essential details.

\*Failure to submit assignments or late submissions can result in lower grades.

## Course Materials

### Required Text(s) & Materials

- N/A. Required readings will be made available during the semester on the course Brightspace page.

### Optional Text(s) & Materials

- Further readings will be made available during the semester on the course Brightspace page.

## Resources

- Access your course materials: [Brightspace](#)
- NYU London and Living in London Info: [LDN](#)
- Databases, journal articles, and more: [Bobst Library](#)
- Assistance with strengthening your writing: [NYU Writing Center](#) (nyu.mywconline.com)
- Obtain 24/7 technology assistance: [IT Help Desk](#)

## Course Schedule

### Topics & Assignments

Week/Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Session 1 Sep. 1st	Introduction	Required readings will be made available	Due dates for weekly homework assignments

# SAMPLE SYLLABUS

<b>Week/Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
		during the semester in Brightspace.	will be announced in class and in Brightspace.
Session 2 Sep. 8th	Atmosphere 1: The Earth's Energy Budget		
Session 3 Sep. 15th	Atmosphere 2: Atmospheric Dynamics		
Session 4 Sep. 22nd	Ocean 1: Physical Processes		
Session 5 Sep. 29th	Ocean 2: Biogeochemical Processes		
Session 6 Oct. 6th	Extreme Weather		
Session 7 Oct. 13th	Midterm Exam		Midterm Exam
Session 8 Oct. 20th	Polar Regions and Sea Level Rise		
Session 9 Oct. 27th	Terrestrial Carbon Cycle 1: Plants		
Session 10 Nov. 3rd	Terrestrial Carbon Cycle 2: Soils		
Session 11 Nov. 10th	Paleoclimate		
Session 12 Nov. 17th	Climate Models and Predictions		
Session 13 Dec. 1st	Negotiation of a Global Climate Agreement		Essay Deadline
Session 14 Dec. 8th	The Climate Emergency		
Final	Final Exam		Final Exam

# SAMPLE SYLLABUS

Week/Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Assessment [date tbc]			

## Course Policies

### Final exams

Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between your final exams, please bring this to the attention of the London Academics team ([nyul.academics@nyu.edu](mailto:nyul.academics@nyu.edu)). Final exams may not be taken early, and students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

### Academic Honesty, Plagiarism and Late Work

Students at Global Academic Centers must follow the [University and school policies](#). You can find details on these topics and more on this section of our NYUL website (<https://www.nyu.edu/london/academics/academic-policies.html>) and on the Policies and Procedures section of the NYU website for students studying away at global sites (<https://www.nyu.edu/academics/studying-abroad/upperclassmen-semester-academic-year-study-away/academic-resources/policies-and-procedures.html>).

### Course Material

Uploading or sharing course materials written by a NYU instructor to websites or people outside the class without the instructor's knowledge and/or permission is compromising the academic integrity and intellectual community of NYU. Course materials are the property of the instructor and are not to be shared without the permission of the author.

### Attendance

Key information on NYU London's absence policy, how to report absences, and what kinds of absences can be excused can be found on our [website](#) (<http://www.nyu.edu/london/academics/attendance-policy.html>)

**To ensure the integrity of the academic experience, class attendance is required and expected promptly when class begins.** These rules apply to class excursions and activities as well.

Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations, but must follow NYU London's absence reporting procedure. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also [University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#)

# SAMPLE SYLLABUS

## **Moses Accommodations Statement**

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or [mosescsd@nyu.edu](mailto:mosescsd@nyu.edu)) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance.

## **Inclusivity Policies and Priorities**

NYU's Office of Global Programs and NYU's global sites are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. In order to nurture a more inclusive global university, NYU affirms the value of sharing differing perspectives and encourages open dialogue through a variety of pedagogical approaches. Our goal is to make all students feel included and welcome in all aspects of academic life, including our syllabi, classrooms, and educational activities/spaces.

## **Pronouns and Name Pronunciation (Albert)**

You can edit your pronoun and name pronunciation information on your Albert account, making it visible for faculty and staff. Information on how to do this can be found on the [Pronouns and Name Pronunciation web page](#).

## **Bias Response**

The New York University Bias Response Line provides a mechanism through which members of our community can share or report experiences and concerns of bias, discrimination, or harassing behavior that may occur within our community. For more information, including how to report an incident, visit the [Bias Response Line website](#).

## **Your Lecturer**

Dr Lisa Weber has a PhD in Marine Sciences, in addition to a first class degree and an MSc equivalent in Physical Geography. Her most recent jobs were Visiting Lecturer for Climate Change Science at the University of Southampton and Associate Lecture for Oceanography at the Open University. Prior to that she worked as postdoctoral researcher at the National Oceanography Centre in Southampton for almost 10 years. Her entire education at University and subsequent jobs have revolved around environmental and marine issues related to climate change. Her previous main research was focused on the biogeochemical cycles of nutrients in marine ecosystem models, which is an important aspect of the global carbon cycle and climate change research. Currently she is investigating the truly interdisciplinary nature of climate change and the need to change our norms and the way we think in order to tackle climate change.