

EESA09H3 - Wind

Instructor: *Tanzina Mohsin*

Room: *SW652*

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Office Hours: *Thursday :2:30 to 4:30 pm*

Teaching Assistants:

Kinson Leung (weather stations tours)

Jerry Jien (marking quizzes)

Benita Tam (marking final exam)

Lecture Time: Thursday, 6:00 pm-9:00 pm (AA112)

Course Description

A survey of the science, history and applications of wind. Topics include storms including hurricanes, tornadoes and midlatitude cyclones, global circulation, local circulations, measurement of winds, impact of winds on land surfaces, wind power, winds and pollution, historical and literary winds, and contemporary wind research. No prior knowledge of environmental science is required.

Tentative Lecture List

1. Introduction to Wind	May 6
2. Global Wind Circulation	May 13
3. Hurricanes	May 20
4. Midlatitude Cyclones	May 27
5. Thunderstorms/Tornadoes	June 3
6. Polar lows	June 10
7. Thermal winds	June 17
8. MIDTERM	June 24 (6:00-8:00 pm)
9. Reading week	July 1
10. Wind measurement	July 8
11. Pollutant transportation by Wind	July 15
12. Wind Power and wind damage	July 22
13. Climate Change: role of wind	July 29

Evaluation

Midterm Test: 30%

Participation (in class quizzes + out of class participation): 20%

Final: 50%

Quizzes will occur near the end of each lecture 2-11. Each quiz will cover the materials from the same day lecture. If you miss a quiz, there is no make up and you will miss out a

participation opportunity. It is very important that you attend each lecture to write the quiz at the end of the lecture. Out of class opportunities will also be available, to a maximum of 10 marks.

Required Text

No text book has been assigned to this course. All lectures with supplementary (explanatory) material will be posted on the course web site on the blackboard.

Reading research papers

In each lecture, a research paper will be introduced on the relevant topic. You are required to read the paper as soon as it is posted on the blackboard.

To study a research paper, follow the steps below.

1. Reading through a given paper once without taking notes, to get an overview of the paper. You should read critically (not passively), by asking yourself such questions as – what research questions the authors are asking? What are the major steps (assumptions/methodologies) taken to answer the questions? How does this reading relate to other readings and most importantly, to the lecture material? Do not use a highlighter at this stage – only when you've read it all can you judge what are the most important points in terms of the results!
2. Reading the paper a second time, in order to take notes. You should record a minimum of 3 main points per paper, but *never* take more than one page of notes from a given paper. If you should fill up a whole page with notes, organize your notes in some structured way so that you can see the relationships between the key points in a simple way. It is harder to take brief notes than to take copious notes, because in making brief notes you have to think more about what you are reading so as to be able to choose the key points and structure them in such a way that they are easy to remember.

Midterm

June 24 (tentative), time and place to be announced

I expect all students to write the midterm exams except under the most severe and exceptional circumstances. I will not accept having a cold, a stomach ache, or headache, or something of that sort as a valid reason for not writing any midterm.

If, for some extraordinary reason, you do miss a midterm, please notify me within 24 hours of the exam by telephone or by email. You should get a reply by email confirming the day and time of the makeup within 2 days of the midterm. Makeup tests will be held no later

than 1 week after the regularly scheduled tests and will be designed to be a little harder than the regular tests. A non-vague note from a doctor will be required.

Midterm and Final exam format

Same format for both exams, only differing in quantity.

1. Section one: one or, two word answer questions (or, fill in the blank)
2. Section two: True or false questions
3. Section three: short answer questions each worth 5 marks
4. Section four: concept maps on topic and research papers: require critical thinking skill

How to study for the exams

You must study the lecture notes (will be posted after each lecture) in addition to the lecture slides, for the exams. The major topics are elaborated in the lecture notes. In order to understand a specific topic and to describe it in detail on the exam paper the notes are very helpful.

Emails

I welcome dialogue by email concerning the material in the course. However, I will delete without answering any emails asking me what is covered on the term tests or final exam, any questions regarding participations (can be found on the blackboard), or asking to come to my office to pick up a term test (can be picked up only during the scheduled time posted on the blackboard). Include EESA09 in the subject line of your emails (this especially makes it easier to find your email later). **YOU CAN ONLY USE THE EMAIL LISTED AT THE TOP OF THIS COURSE OUTLINE.**