

Earth System Science Seminar: Climate Change in Wisconsin

ATM OCN 980: Seminar, Earth System Science, Spring, 2009

Cross-listed with: BOTANY, ENVIR ST, FOREST, GEOG, GEOLOGY, ZOOLOGY



Organizers:

Jack Williams¹ (jww@geography.wisc.edu). Science Hall room 208

Daniel J. Vimont² (dvimont@wisc.edu). AOSS room 1123

Time and Place: Friday 12:05-1:30pm, Science Hall room 450

One of the most important challenges facing humanity today is the understanding of how our Earth system and social structures will respond to anthropogenic climate change throughout the coming century. Understanding climate change and its impacts is an especially difficult problem due to the vast complexity of climate and social systems, as well as the interactions between these systems; this complexity mandates an interdisciplinary approach when studying or assessing impacts of climate change. Although there are numerous efforts at the University of Wisconsin to understand elements of climate change, opportunities for interaction within the UW climate-change community are less common.

This one-credit seminar has two objectives: (1) to facilitate discussion of climate change research and issues amongst a broad group of graduate students and faculty at the University of Wisconsin, and (2) to establish broader interdisciplinary thinking among graduate student researchers who are interested in climate change. We meet once per week, and the meeting time will be a mixture of guest lectures and discussion. We hope that the short-term objective of our course – to initiate a discussion of issues related to the science of climate change and its impacts – will lead to a lasting community dialogue at the University of Wisconsin.

The theme of the seminar changes every year; this year we will focus on **Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation in Wisconsin**. The year will be roughly divided into three non-consecutive topics: (i) overview of projected climate changes and ecosystem impacts; (ii) Wisconsin mitigation strategies; and (iii) Wisconsin adaptation strategies. To encourage discussion, short readings relevant to the weekly topic will be provided.

¹Center for Climatic Research and Department of Geography

²Center for Climatic Research and Department of Atmospheric, Ocean, and Space Sciences

Seminar Schedule

Date	Presenter	Theme	Topic
1/23/2009	Dan Vimont	Overview	Overview of IPCC and Climate Change Impact Assessment Frameworks
1/30/2009	Dan Vimont	Overview	WI Climate Change
2/6/2009	Jack Williams	Overview	Ecosystems and Climate Change
2/13/2009	Eric DeWeaver, UW-Madison	Overview	Polar Bear Case Study
2/20/2009	Bill Walker	Overview	Decision-Making
2/27/2009	Scott Bernstein, Center for Neighborhood Technology	Mitigation	
3/6/2009	Jeanne Hoffman, Mayor's Office	Mitigation	Mayor's Office
3/13/2009	Bill Schutten WECC	Mitigation	TBA
Spring Break			
3/27/2009	Bob Stoffs, MG&E	Mitigation	
4/3/2009		Mitigation	
4/10/2009	Sara Hotchkiss & David Mladenoff, UW-Madison	Adaptation	
4/17/2009	John Lyons	Adaptation	
4/24/2009	Chris Kucharik, UW-Madison	Adaptation	
5/1/2009		Adaptation	
5/8/2009		Adaptation	