

Cover Sheet: Request 14681

4XXX Weather Briefing

Info

Process	Course New Ugrad/Pro
Status	Pending at PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
Submitter	Stephen Mullens stephen.mullens@ufl.edu
Created	2/3/2020 12:20:07 PM
Updated	4/17/2020 3:29:29 PM
Description of request	This is a course for a proposed meteorology degree. It is a one-credit course designed to bring together student's understanding of meteorological topics from previously completed courses and to enhance their technical communication and presentation abilities.

Actions

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
Department	Approved	CLAS - Geography 011609000	Jane Southworth		2/3/2020
No document changes					
College	Recycled	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane	The College Curriculum Committee recycles this request, with the following changes needed: 1) please clarify whether the course title is Weather Briefing or Weather Briefings; 2) start course description with "Student learn to..." and delete final sentence of description; 3) change required prerequisite grades to "C"; 4) under grading scheme, please explain how an "S" grade is earned	2/17/2020
No document changes					
Department	Approved	CLAS - Geography 011609000	Jane Southworth		2/25/2020
Weather Briefing Rubric.pdf					
College	Conditionally Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane	The College Curriculum Committee conditionally approves this request, with the following: 1) please correct typos in the course description.	4/3/2020
No document changes					
Department	Approved	CLAS - Geography 011609000	Jane Southworth		4/17/2020
No document changes					
College	Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane		4/17/2020
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Pending	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)			4/17/2020

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
No document changes					
Statewide Course Numbering System					
No document changes					
Office of the Registrar					
No document changes					
Student Academic Support System					
No document changes					
Catalog					
No document changes					
College Notified					
No document changes					

Course|New for request 14681

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Request: 4XXX Weather Briefing

Description of request: This is a course for a proposed meteorology degree. It is a one-credit course designed to bring together student's understanding of meteorological topics from previously completed courses and to enhance their technical communication and presentation abilities.

Submitter: Stephen Mullens stephen.mullens@ufl.edu

Created: 4/3/2020 11:12:29 AM

Form version: 5

Responses

Recommended Prefix MET

Course Level 4

Course Number XXX

Category of Instruction Advanced

Lab Code None

Course Title Weather Briefing

Transcript Title Weather Briefing

Degree Type Baccalaureate

Delivery Method(s) On-Campus

Co-Listing No

Effective Term Earliest Available

Effective Year Earliest Available

Rotating Topic? No

Repeatable Credit? No

Amount of Credit 1

S/U Only? Yes

Contact Type Regularly Scheduled

Weekly Contact Hours 1

Course Description Students learn to prepare and present a daily weather briefing. Briefings will demonstrate the ability to synthesize weather information on all scales, prepare a forecast, and communicate this clearly and succinctly to an audience.

Prerequisites Atmospheric Dynamics (C) & Synoptic Meteorology (C) (Neither course has a number yet.)

Co-requisites N/A

Rationale and Placement in Curriculum Each course in the meteorology degree discusses a subset of meteorological theories that apply to weather patterns. A weather briefings course challenges students to apply theories from all of their courses to communicate a coherent understanding of current observations and short-term forecasts. This course also aids student presentation and communication skills to advanced meteorological audiences. Thus, this course is designed to be a senior-level course that hinges on conceptual and mathematical understanding of topics from all courses they have already completed. This is a common course offered in meteorological programs.

Course Objectives Apply meteorological theories to describe the surface and upper-air observations for atmospheric systems that span the local scale, mesoscale, synoptic scale, and planetary scale. Create short-term weather forecasts using the output from numerical weather prediction model guidance.

Course Textbook(s) and/or Other Assigned Reading N/A

Weekly Schedule of Topics 1. Introduction to Course Structure.

2. Giving a quality weather discussion.

3 - 15. Discussion of present weather. First few weeks will be group presentations, followed by individual presentations.

Grading Scheme Each student will be required to participate in multiple group presentations and three individual presentations. Students will provide written critiques of each presentation, including a self-critique of their own presentation. The critiques will use the attached rubric of a presenter's delivery style (e.g. volume, eye contact, verbal pacing, meteorological terminology, geographic precision), presentation format (e.g. organization, has a clear theme, graphics compliment content), and technical accuracy (e.g. addresses all meteorological scales, refers to meteorological theory to give sound reasoning, scientifically ties concepts together).

S - Completed two group and three individual presentations with satisfactory delivery style, presentation format, and technical accuracy. Completed a self-critique of their individual presentation.

U - Did not complete two group and three individual presentations with satisfactory delivery style, presentation format, and technical accuracy.

See the attached rubric for what a satisfactory presentation entails.

Instructor(s) To be determined

Attendance & Make-up Yes

Accomodations Yes

UF Grading Policies for assigning Grade Points Yes

Course Evaluation Policy Yes

Weather Briefing Rubric

Delivery Style

	Proficient	Basic	Unacceptable
Volume	You could hear and understand every word from any location in the room. 2 points	Not every word was audible. Either they were too quiet throughout, faced away from the audience and couldn't be heard, or trailed off at times. 1 point	Could only hear and understand what was generally being discussed, but few details. Maybe the speaker was asked to speak up more than once.
Eye contact	Speaker routinely looked away from notes and the screen to face the audience when speaking. Attention was clearly on the audience. 1 points	Speaker sometimes looked at the audience, but was too often tied to either the screen or their notes. 0.5 point	The speaker rarely looked at the audience.
Verbal Pacing	The speaker didn't rush, and didn't have long pauses. Words were spoken at an understandable pace, using digestible sentences. Filler words are minimally used. 1 points	The speaker either spoke too fast, paused for a long period of time, or used long and rambling sentences. A little too many filler words. 0.5 point	The pacing of the speaker made it difficult to follow the logical structure of the presentation.
Geographic Precision	Speaker used clear proper nouns and compass directions verbally and accompanying non-verbal indications throughout the presentation. Pronoun references were obvious. 2 points	Speaker used proper nouns most of the time, but still relied on generic "up" and "over here" words a lot. Relied heavily on non-verbal indications. Pronoun references were sometimes unclear. 1 point	Speaker rarely used proper nouns verbally. Were asked more than once what they were referring to. Lack of geographic references made the presentation hard to follow.

Presentation Format

	Proficient	Basic	Unacceptable
Organization	<p>Presentation had a clear flow of thought with clear transitions between topics and graphics. Each topic revolved around a single story for the day.</p> <p>2 points</p>	<p>Presentation included several parts that were each internally coherent, but it wasn't clear how they tied together.</p> <p>1 point</p>	<p>A series of observations were given. But it wasn't clear why each transition was made and what story was being told.</p>
Clear theme	<p>All the topics discussed revolved around a single story for the day. It was clear how each topic related to the larger picture as the presentation progressed.</p> <p>2 points</p>	<p>Perhaps a single story was being told, but it wasn't clear throughout how each topic related to it. Perhaps a couple of stories were being told, but it wasn't clear how they related to each other.</p> <p>1 point</p>	<p>It isn't clear how each topic related to each other. "What is the end result of the topics that were discussed?"</p>
Use of Graphics	<p>Speaker clearly used the graphic shown when discussing each topic. It was always clear what the speaker was referencing when making each point.</p> <p>2 points</p>	<p>The topic being discussed didn't seem to match the graphic being shown. The graphic was hard to see and interpret, and/or it wasn't always clear what the speaker was referencing.</p> <p>1 point</p>	<p>The speaker often discussed topics that were difficult to relate to the graphic shown. It was often unclear what the speaker was referencing.</p>

Technical Accuracy

	Proficient	Basic	Unacceptable
Address all meteorological scales	Speaker addressed the synoptic, mesoscale, and relevant local scale issues in the forecast. Bonus for covering planetary impacts. 2 points	Speaker spent an inordinate amount of time focused on one scale over the others. 1 point	Speaker failed to mention at least one of the scales, which was vital to the forecast.
Meteorological theory	Accurate and precise theories from dynamics, thermodynamics, synoptic, mesoscale, atmospheric physics, and instrumentation are incorporated where appropriate and were understandable. 2 points	Correct theoretical concepts were incorporated, but was discussed imprecisely and/or was difficult to understand in context. 1 point	Theoretical concepts were either not discussed or were often used inaccurately in the presentation. "That's not what that means."
Scientifically ties concepts together	Similar to the clear theme and organization, clear transitions between topics were not just between scales or geographic regions, but also between scientific concepts. 2 points	While the presentation may have been clearly organized in many respects, and meteorological theories were discussed, the scientific connection between theories and topics was sometimes unclear. 1 point	While the presentation may have been clearly organized in many respects, the scientific cause and effect between theoretical concepts were unclear, if they were discussed at all.

Totals

Delivery Style = _____

Presentation Format = _____

Technical Accuracy = _____

Total = _____

S – 13.5 out of 18 (75%) is a satisfactory score for an individual presentation.

U – 13 or fewer points is an unsatisfactory score for an individual presentation.