Climate Crossroads Introduction:

Irreversible climate disruption poses an unprecedented challenge to the stability of all societies: what are the scientifically viable pathways to a future that is sustainable and just?

Welcome to Climate Crossroads and hope you are enjoying the remainder of your summer vacations!

We are very excited to have you join our course this semester in which we will see together how society is at an unprecedented point in human history wherein our collective global enterprise has resulted in the rapid onset of irreversible changes to the Earthâ€™s climate structure. Challenging times offer you unique opportunities to play a key role in proactive solutions to address the rapid escalation in climate disruption through insight offered by the union of various disciplines. The course will introduce scientific concepts via the ***context within*** which they are required to address, for example, forecasts of sea level rise, expanding wildfire risk, loss of freshwater resources that drive large-scale refugee flow, intensification of severe storms, deadly heatwaves, etc. and how they are interlinked with advances in public policy, economics, law, biodiversity, and environmental justice.

Climate Crossroads has no science, math, or writing prerequisites. Everything you will need to succeed is directly taught and provided in our course materials. The course staff are all here to support you throughout the semester so please do not be afraid to ask any questions or seek clarification on anything throughout the semester. We hope you are as excited as us to embark on the semester long journey towards driving new thinking in public policy, economics, law, finance, art, as well as science. Each of your unique inputs and backgrounds is what will drive our in-class discussions. If you have any questions before the first day of class or wish to discuss concerns as you decide which General Education courses to enroll into during this course enrollment period, please do not hesitate to reach out to Professor Anderson or Joe.

Wishing you all the best as you enjoy the rest of summer and safe travels to Cambridge!

Best Regards,

Jim Anderson & Joe Gonzales

This pre-recorded introduction to the course was made in a previous semester. Thus, there are two important updates starting Fall 2024: (1) This is no longer the first time of this course being offered and (2) Professor Jim Engell is retired and no longer co-teaches this course. **However, the topics discussed in this video are still relevant to the topics and questions we will explore in GENED 1167.**

Class Meetings:

Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM in Harvard Hall 104

Professor:

- **Jim Anderson** (anderson@huarp.harvard.edu)
  - Philip S. Weld Professor of Atmospheric Chemistry, https://www.arp.harvard.edu/
  - Office Hours: *TBA*

Teaching Fellows:

- **Miguel Inoa - Head TF & Section TF** (mlinoa@gsd.harvard.edu)
  - Dual-Degree Harvard Graduate, Masters of Architecture + Masters of Landscape Architecture AP, https://dso.college.harvard.edu/people/miguel-inoa
  - Office Hours: *TBA*

Section Information:

Please see the syllabus on how to enroll directly into a section or switch sections in *my.harvard*. The table below will be filled out with the exact location and Section TF for your selected section by the first week of Fall Semester classes.

Your assigned section leader will be in charge of your attendance and participation, *so please make sure to attend your assigned section code*. You can find your section code in *my.harvard* in the enrolled courses list. If you need to attend a different section for one time only, please contact the Head TF prior to sections that week.

Section Code	Day/Time	Leader	Location
	Thursdays 3:00-4:15 PM		
	Thursdays 3:00-4:15 PM		
	Thursdays 4:30-5:45 PM		
	Fridays 12:00-01:15 PM		

Course Syllabus & Schedule:

GENED 1167 Climate Crossroads Syllabus Page

Semester Overview

The table below lays out the course content organized by module plus exam dates and assignment deadlines. For more details on what each module will cover, **please click on the links embedded in the table below** or navigate the **Modules** tabs in the left hand menu. **All readings listed should be done *before* the date listed for them.**

Module	Dates	Topic & Module Links
1	Sept 3-6	Overview
2	Sept 7-13	History of Earth's Climate
3	Sept 14-20	Human Activity that Most Affects Climate, 1750-2050
4	Sept 21-27	Atmosphere
	Sept 27	**First Assignment Due: Details in Module TBA**
5	Sept 28-Oct 4	Oceans
6	Oct 5-11	Energy Challenges I

	Oct 11	**Take-home Midterm Exam: Details in Module TBA**
7	Oct 12-18	Energy Challenges II
8	Oct 19-25	Biodiversity, Forests, Plants, Farming, and Land Use
9	Oct 26-Nov 1	Political Economy I
	Nov 1	**Second Assignment Due: Details in Module TBA**
10	Nov 2-8	Political Economy II
11	Nov 9-15	Human Health
12	Nov 16-22	Culture, Habit, the Media, and Communication
13	Nov 23-Dec 3	Literature and the Arts
	Nov 27-Dec 1	**Thanksgiving Break: No Lecture & Section Nov 28/29**
	Dec 4	**Third Assignment Due: Details in Module TBA**
	TBA by Registrar	**Take-home Final Exam: Details in Module TBA**