



PHSC 13400 2, ENSC 13400 2, GEOS 13400 2, ENST 12300 2 - Global Warming: Understanding the Forecast - Instructor(s): Douglas R Macayeal

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **103**

Number of Responses: **45**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
This course taught me a lot of history that I was no aware of, regarding climate change activism.
Albedo
Tons of things, even though it is a core course. The prof is so knowledgeable and cool.
I honestly learned a lot about sociology in this class in addition to global warming.
Global warming and how radiation works in relation to it
gas in the atmosphere
How global warming happens and affects our world
Basics of global warming.
LOVE DOUG! Helped foster a deeper interest in the physical sciences!
The legitimacy and dire consequences of global warming.
basics of global warming and the scientific mechanisms behind it
The actual science behind phenomena like the greenhouse gas effect, the history behind the science, and the reception of this science (plus other topics like geoengineering, etc.)
I learned about the causes and impacts of global warming, and about how dire our current climate crisis is.
Various things about global warming?
Geological cycles of the earth and how humans have impacted the climate
the effects of global warming
Basics about the warming of the earth and how we measure it / future warming forecasts
Global warming is a big issue
My favorite thing to learn was the process of engaging in scientific analysis of the environment. It's one thing entirely to read the literature or the statistics, but I appreciate the level at which I now understand how the data is acquired, and in some cases, why.
Global warming and effects seen in recent years. Python programming
Greater appreciation for how the statistics and predictions we see reported in the news are actually determined and the history of how the science got there.
Global warming, the human responsibility, and its historical past
Some coding skills, data managing and analyzing
how insanely pressing the situation with climate change is.
I learned about the history of the environmental movement and how people have been struggling to get the world to care about global warming for far longer than we have been paying attention for, and also about the projects that people are pursuing to combat global warming, such as architectural initiatives within cities to cool the area and reduce the need of air conditioning and power to make buildings cooler.
The cause of global warming and how we are dealing with it.
global warming stuff
We learned about the forecast of global warming, how we can stop it, and how humans have contributed to its development.
The science and societal interpretations of global warming

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
Lectures were entertaining and varied from scientific to historical.
Quizzes were helpful
Lectures and labs are really interesting and not overly challenging.
Lectures were very interesting, though did not explain lab sections most of the time.
Lectures were fun and helpful, with everything on assignments related to what we cover. Labs were interesting and not too hard.
lectures were very helpful
labs were really helpful for applying information
lectures were helpful
Labs were very helpful.
I liked the lectures with Doug a lot. the lab sections were confusing at times but manageable with the great support from my TA and Doug
Lectures were informative, Labs were effective in delivering a message through various forms of analysis.
lectures
I learned the most from the labs, although I enjoyed the lectures too
Lectures and labs
The lab sections contributed the most to my learning because I had no idea how to code on python
lectures were always very interesting
lectures were helpful
I feel like I learned most through the labs, but there was a lot of coding at the beginning. I had coded before so it was fine, but to someone who hasn't they would definitely be challenging.
Labs were super helpful and I learned how to code a bit from them
The lectures introduced and explained new topics, the readings developed this understanding and introduced some more real world context, and the labs put all of that knowledge into practice.
Lectures and lab
Readings were incredibly impactful (and a little depressing)—definitely worth doing!
Lectures, Labs
The labs were the most helpful, however it was mostly because of the TA, the actual labs often felt frustrating since they relied too heavily on if the script decided to run well or not
Read the articles and go to the labs and you'll be fine. Lecture material is helpful but usually easy enough to figure by taking the lecture slides and shoring up your understanding with the lab instructions.
Discussions and the assigned readings were most helpful for my learning, particularly the articles that were assigned weekly as they contained a lot of information about the current state of the world and our initiatives to combat climate change.
Lectures were very engaging.
it all fuses together
Lectures and readings were very helpful
All assignments were very interesting and felt meaningful

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.82	4.00	0.00%	15.38%	17.95%	35.90%	30.77%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.46	5.00	2.56%	2.56%	5.13%	25.64%	64.10%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	2.56%	7.69%	20.51%	69.23%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.26	5.00	2.63%	5.26%	7.89%	31.58%	52.63%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.24	5.00	2.70%	5.41%	8.11%	32.43%	51.35%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.59	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.13%	30.77%	64.10%
I felt respected in this class.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.13%	20.51%	74.36%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.49	5.00	0.00%	2.56%	12.82%	17.95%	66.67%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
super easy class to fulfill your physci
very chill, prof was very nice
It's not nice to just add a python lab and expect everyone to catch up to speed when most people in the class have never even coded before. There should have been more introduction to coding, because no one had a clue what they were doing
wonderful professor, was obvious that he was extremely interested in the subject and was passionate about sharing it.
Doug was a great prof and didn't make the material seem too daunting or scary
Doug is a really good professor and truly cares about what he cares about. He makes the courses interesting with interactive labs and is very lenient in terms of recognizing students work and grading. He is very available and willing to help students if they need.
Very easy, as Doug admits from the outset. The point is to a) give you some important information on a topic that is relevant to all of us, even outside of STEM and b) show non-STEM students how to think like scientists and show them where our understanding of Climate Science comes from.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	18.92%	81.08%
Anyone interested in the topic	0.00%	100.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
Professor Macayael's lectures were very helpful in contextualizing labs.
Lectures were really interesting, I definitely encouraged attending all of them.
The livelihood of class lectures
Great lectures and interesting labs
labs and lectures
Great person. Engaging speaker. Extremely knowledgeable.
Anecdotal framing of concepts
lectures
The Professor was engaging and clearly passionate about the research he discussed. His most interesting lectures were about his own research on ice formations
The lectures
recording lectures
Lectures
engaging lectures
Presentation
His office hours and class lectures
I most appreciated the clarity and the passion with which the professor conducted lecture.
Lectures
He is so nice and always try to teach us something.
Lectures, Homework, Labs
In person lectures were very helpful to learning, as well as the readings because they provided the most information in a centralized place.
Lectures
Great guy, great lecturer
The lectures were very fun and interesting
Professor Doug is WONDERFUL, he truly cares about his students and the topics he teaches and he wants to see every student succeed. Every assignment and lab felt meaningful and informative, and his passion shone through throughout the quarter. Could not recommend this class more

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing, Professor Macayael is the man!
Best professor I've had at UChicago
n/a
N/A
n/a
The labs could include less coding in python, it didn't feel entirely relevant to the course material
nothing
more readings
Nothing, this class was perfect
I'm honestly drawing a blank, I feel like I gleaned from the class what was intended and it was enjoyable to do so.
n/a
N/A
Post lectures or better detailed notes on what is discussed
If grading were stricter, paying attention would be more encouraged, but that's a tradeoff to be sure.
Nothing
Nothing. Great instructor
N/A
N/A

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.61	5.00	0.00%	2.63%	7.89%	15.79%	73.68%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	2.63%	7.89%	13.16%	73.68%	2.63%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	2.63%	10.53%	10.53%	63.16%	13.16%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.53	5.00	0.00%	7.89%	5.26%	13.16%	73.68%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.39	5.00	0.00%	5.26%	13.16%	18.42%	63.16%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.53%	23.68%	65.79%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.76	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.26%	10.53%	71.05%	13.16%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.89%	26.32%	65.79%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.73	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.26%	15.79%	76.32%	2.63%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.51	5.00	0.00%	2.63%	10.53%	18.42%	65.79%	2.63%

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.

Comments
sapon
Freya Chen was a wonderful TA, she was very helpful and available outside of class.
TA Sifang Chen. Super nice and helpful. Always open to questions, in and outside of lab times. def a superior lab TA.
Sifang Chen: ran through our labs, including Python code, well and was available outside of class whenever I emailed him for help
Branson Scott– Starr
Sifang
Hsing–Hung Chou
Freya Chen – incredibly receptive to the students, helpful for the self–guided Labs
Sapon Chupongstimun was kind and helpful in lab sessions, but I struggled to answer some of the theoretical questions on the labs that we did not cover in section meetings. He was a fair grader and responded to emails quickly.
Sifang Chen, was very helpful in explaining the labs.
Branson Scott–Starr
Sapon Chupongstimun
Brandon
Sapon
Sifang! He was always available in office hours or by email and was super helpful in our labs
Freya Chen. Really good at explaining labs during office hours and is helpful even outside of office hour.
Freya Chen
Branson Scott–Star
They were very helpful during the labs, explaining things and encouraging discussion
Sifang Chen
Freya Chen. It was helpful to watch her code during our lab sections so that I understood how to complete the lab activities.
idk
Sifang was great
Sifang Chen
Sapon

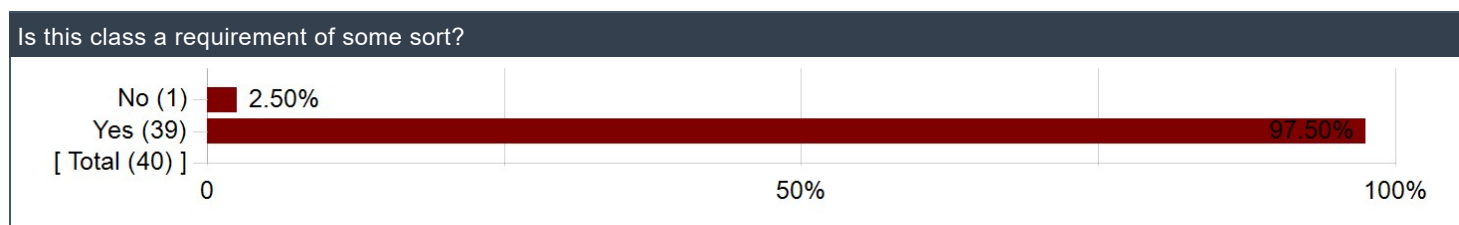
The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.36	5.00	0.00%	3.85%	11.54%	19.23%	50.00%	15.38%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	26.92%	57.69%	7.69%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	23.08%	15.38%	53.85%	7.69%
Challenged you to learn.	4.42	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	23.08%	53.85%	7.69%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	23.08%	65.38%	3.85%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	23.08%	65.38%	3.85%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	19.23%	15.38%	61.54%	3.85%

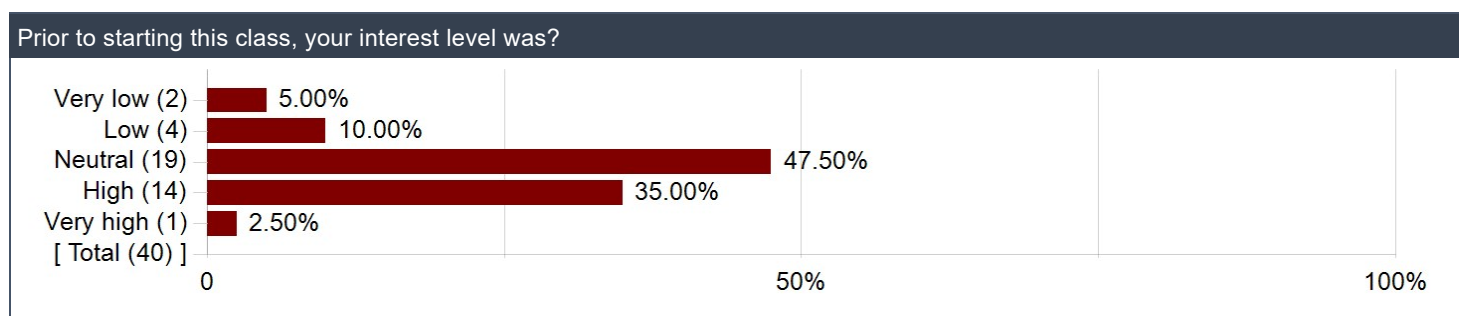
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	3.80	4.00	8.00%	12.00%	12.00%	28.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Field Trips	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	1.00	1.00	5.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	95.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

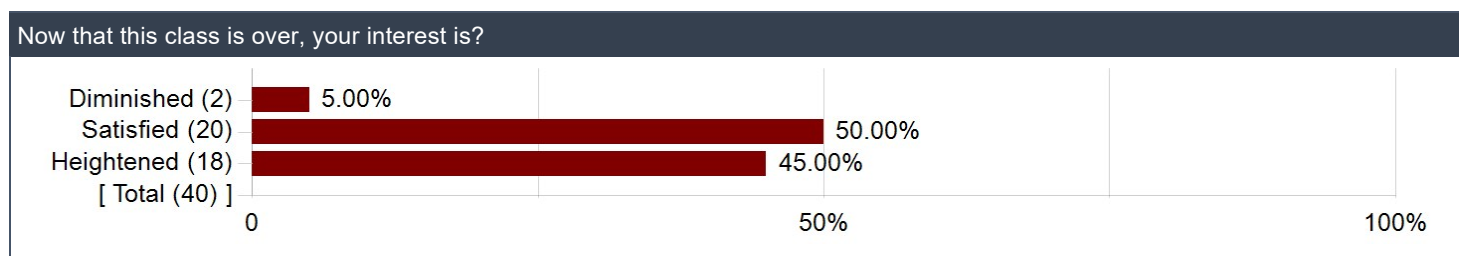
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



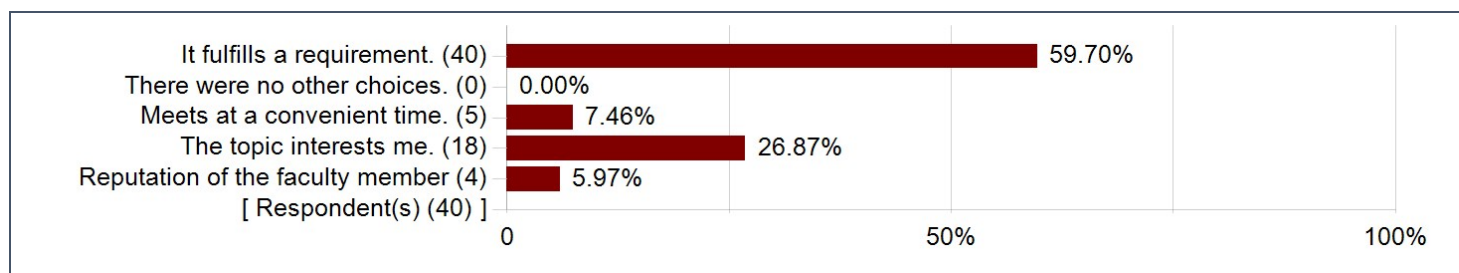
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?

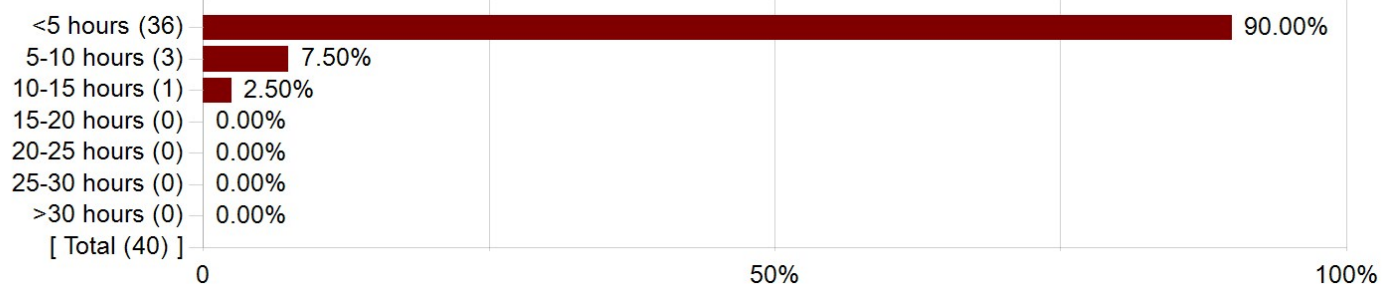


Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



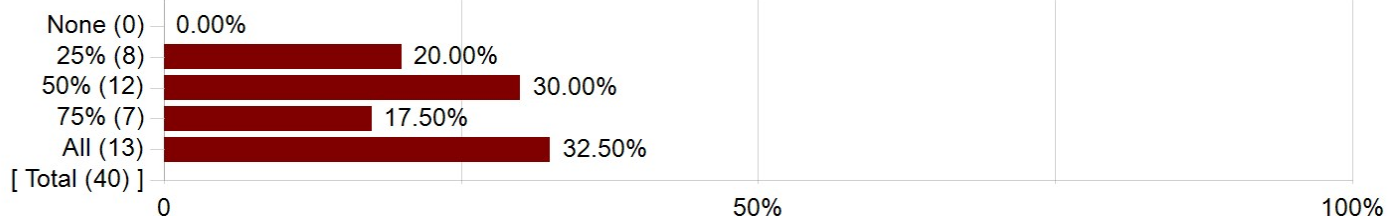
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
very VERY easy phy sci course (u get an A if you do the very bare minimum and everything is graded on completion) – the only thing that was tough was the labs (very tedious), but those were also completion based
The most difficult part of the course was definitely the coding, but prior knowledge is not required.
Extremely accessible
any level of experience/knowledge. definitely take for your phy sci core if you can
Not too difficult
This class is a great physical science core class. It's an interesting topic that's relevant, and an entry level course that is accessible to everyone, even if you aren't a stem person.
Able to complete labs in Python with no prior coding experience
not difficult
It was not difficult
Fairly easy compared to most of my classes, but very interesting
not difficult
Not difficult
Not difficult at all
I have a healthy background in the area, but I think even without it the class would have been manageable even including the programming portions.
One of the better core physci classes you could take, just go to lab and get the assignments done.
Very easy, you'll get out of it what you put into it.
moderate
Super light
Not difficult