



# PHSC 13410 2, GEOS 13410 2, ENST 13410 2, ENSC 13410 2 - Global Warming: Understanding the Forecast (Flipped Class) - Instructor(s) - Chao Zhang, Dorian Abbot, Jui-Chun Chen

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Spring 2024**

Number Enrolled: **31**

Number of Responses: **11**

## Report Comments

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

Creation Date: **Thursday, July 11, 2024**

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

Comments
I learnt about how humans contribute to global warming and its the negative impacts.
A lot about how global warming actually happens. Concepts like albedo, ice–albedo feedback and water vapour feedback, etc.
The scientific base of global warming, global climate modeling, various attempts to reverse global warming (cap–and–trade v.s. carbon tax, climate engineering), albedo effects, identifying clouds, gained skills in understanding what are the causes and effects of global warming, in different scales of time and space.
Global warming
Global warming
One–layer model, albedo, Stefan–Boltzmann Law, cloud feedback
I learned some things about global warming, but the course design was overall just not conducive to learning or retaining information.

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

Comments
The readings before class introduced new concepts and the lectures reinforced the concepts that were in the weekly readings.
No lectures, only small TA overviews and discussions. Quizzes contributed most to my understanding, but the first two or so were harder than expected and than the notes.
lecture
This is a flipped course so it started with a mini–lecture and then jumped into discussions. There were biweekly quizzes and a final project and final exam, all are take home.
In–class lectures and assignments were almost useless and a real waste of everyone's time. The flipped classroom format didn't work at all because there was no engagement at 8:30.
I mean, with the way this course is designed, the only real way to learn anything is from the class notes for each meeting and the problems you do in each class. The main issue is that the problems were sometimes barely relevant to the class notes, the questions were often unclear, and it was overall a very poorly designed course. The flipped class method also meant everybody was much more concerned with trying to interpret the poorly written equation explanations than with actually learning the content. The labs were completely pointless, and the "elevator pitch" video assignment didn't teach anything or add any value to the class either.

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.29	4.00	28.57%	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	28.57%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	42.86%	42.86%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.43	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	42.86%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.57	4.00	0.00%	28.57%	14.29%	28.57%	28.57%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	3.43	4.00	14.29%	28.57%	0.00%	14.29%	42.86%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.25	5.00	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	12.50%	62.50%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	3.75	4.50	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
An easy and great course about a crucial topic.
It's a weird class but overall enjoyable because of the knowledge you gain. It's probably easier for some more than others depending on background.
I think the course were well organized, and I really appreciated that we could have the time and space to discuss the problem sets and do it together.
Good core class for physci
Do not take at 8:30! Even if you're a morning person, chances are everyone else won't be and it'll make the class miserable.
Fantastic class definitely recommend taking
We learned nothing. It's an easy way to do your Physical Sciences core, but I really cannot recommend it if you want to feel like you're actually getting anything out of the class.
There were also fairly often one or two curveball questions on the quizzes that you simply had to guess on because there was no way to do it with the knowledge taught in the class—it's not enough to affect your grade, but it does underscore the absurdity of the course.

## I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	28.57%	71.43%
Anyone interested in the topic	28.57%	71.43%

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

Comments
The notes posted by the Professor were extremely helpful.
The Professor's notes are incredible! Very organized, comprehensive, and mostly easy to understand. I wish the answers were distributed after each class, though. Note that the professor doesn't actually teach the classes; the TAs do.
Freya's lectures were pretty clear and she explained concepts well and answered questions when we have them. She tried her best to get the class engaged and was available when we needed additional help.
Freya was very helpful and always answered our questions
Well, the instructor wasn't there, and his contributions (writing the course materials) were all pretty low-quality. There was a class period where we had to spend time debating long-dropped law proposals because he literally had not updated the news articles we were supposed to read since he designed the course years ago.

## What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing. The notes were detailed and self explanatory.
Maybe show up to class more than once, maybe teach a class every now and again? The flipped format is great, but it made him seem intimidating. he's otherwise quite helpful and responsive via email. accommodating when you have a valid excuse.
More contact with the main professor. I think actual recorded lectures would be a much better version of the "flipped classroom" than what's currently happening.
Rewriting the course materials to make them make sense, making sure that the quiz questions can all actually be answered with the materials from class, teaching this class in a normal format instead of a flipped one, etc.

## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.25	5.00	12.50%	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	3.86	5.00	12.50%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	50.00%	12.50%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	3.86	4.00	12.50%	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	37.50%	12.50%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	3.88	5.00	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	5.00	12.50%	12.50%	0.00%	12.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	3.88	5.00	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.25	5.00	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	12.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.13	5.00	12.50%	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.29	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	12.50%	50.00%	12.50%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	5.00	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	0.00%

**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
Jui-Chun Chen. She was extremely helpful in class and made the content from the readings super easy to understand.
Freya Chen. Freya's not always the best at explaining concepts, but she is extremely helpful and makes clear the criteria for discussion and any assignments (final project; extra credit). She also had the great idea to create Google Docs so groups could share their answers. When we were able to do them, it was beneficial to be able to go back. Her slides are also incredibly helpful, especially before quizzes.
Freya (It's a flipped class so she was the section leader, not sure if it will be categorized as TA in this case. Anyways, I'll copy and paste my comment from previous section. Freya's lectures were pretty clear and she explained concepts well and answered questions when we have them. She tried her best to get the class engaged and was available when we needed additional help.
Freya Chen
Freya
Freya Chen. She was nice, but everyone was so disengaged that she wasn't very helpful at all. She also didn't tell us about quizzes at all— they'd just pop up with no notice and catch me off guard.
Freya was great and was very helpful throughout the quarter
Freya Chen. She did the best that she could with how absurd the course was, and I have no complaints about her. She always did her best to answer questions and clarify concepts, and it's only because of her that this course was bearable.

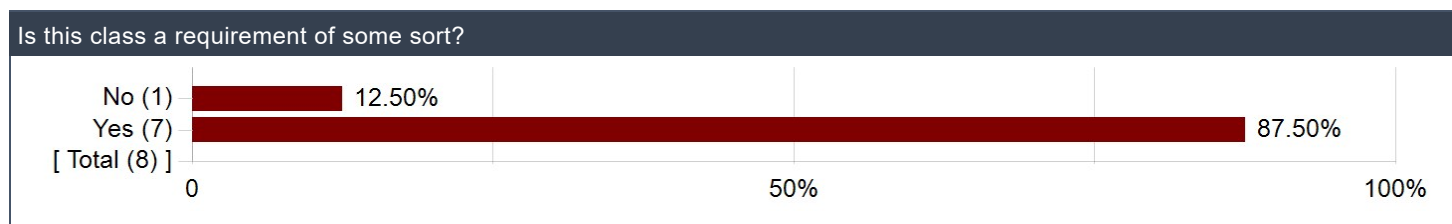
## The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.00	4.00	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	42.86%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.00	5.00	14.29%	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	57.14%	14.29%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.14	5.00	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	57.14%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	5.00	14.29%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	57.14%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	14.29%	71.43%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	3.83	4.50	16.67%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	50.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.14	5.00	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	57.14%	0.00%

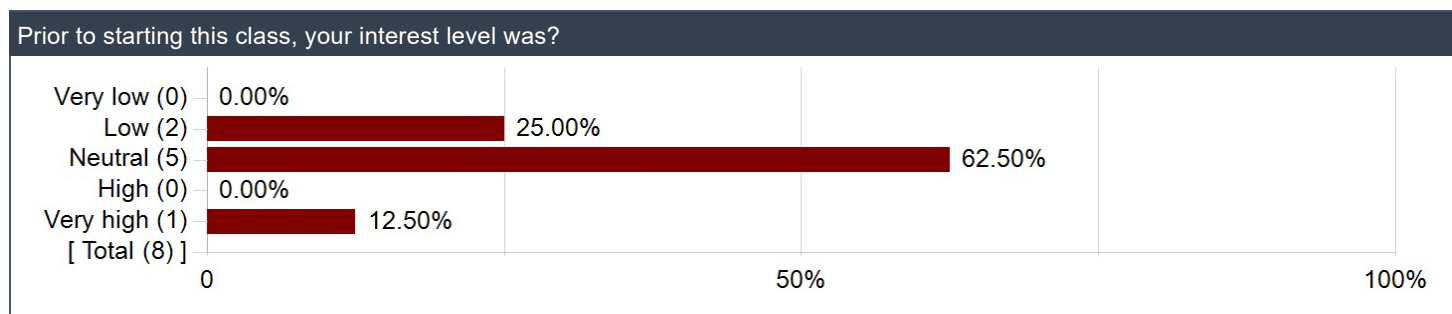
## How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	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	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

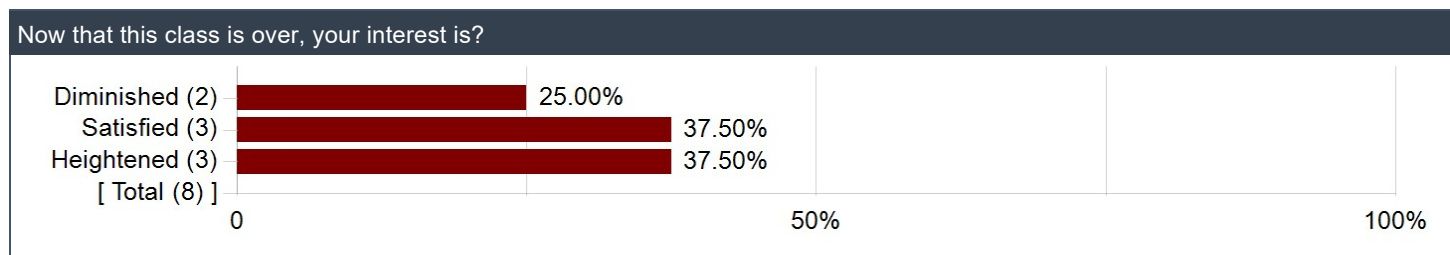
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



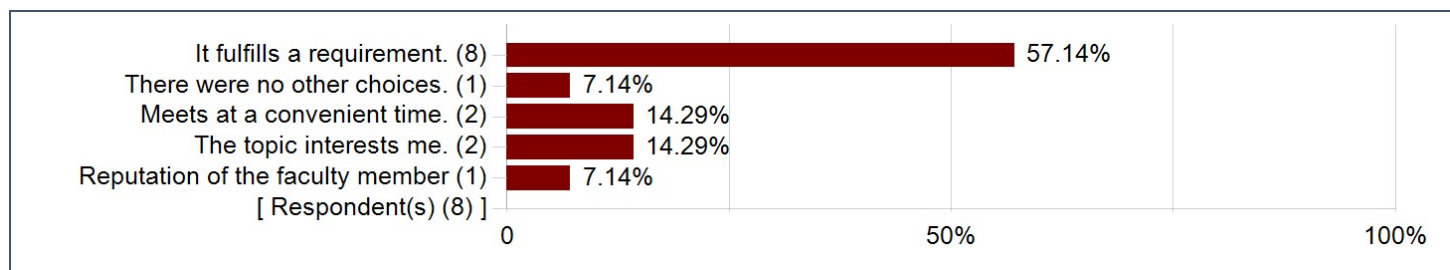
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



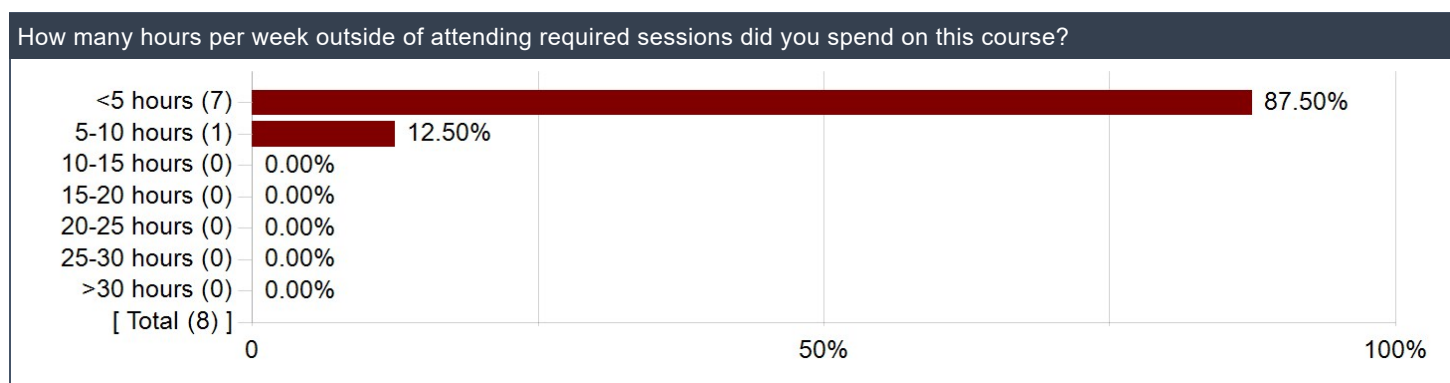
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



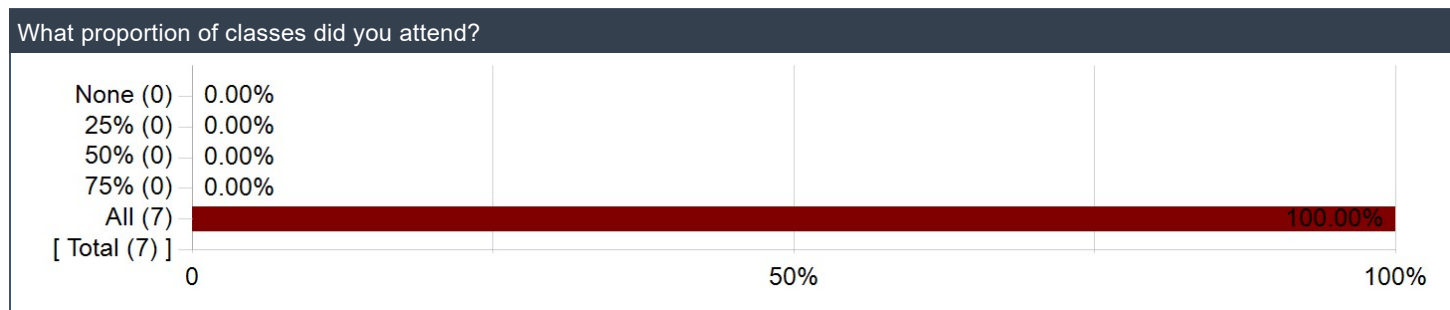
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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



## What proportion of classes did you attend?



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

Comments
It is an interesting course and had manageable workload.
I had basically no experience in the topic and little physics background apart from the evolution of the solar system course. it was mostly fine, but I struggled at first to find my footing.
Reasonable
No difficulty and no prior experience other than Earth as a Planet
Easy as a social science major, took lots of science classes in HS.
It's not at all hard if you do the work