ENVIRON 112 Climate and Humankind
Winter 2021 - Section 001
January 19 - March 4

Professor: Dr. Naomi Levin, Associate Professor
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nelevin@umich.edu

Description: In this mini-course we'll explore how climate change and humans have influenced each other through time. Topics will include the effects of climate on human evolution, the collapse of civilizations, the spread of diseases and migration. Topics will also include examples of the human impact on climate and the Anthropocene.

Course Timing
Scheduled class time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 am

Lectures will be posted by 9:00am of each class day and assignments will follow a regular schedule, requiring students to regularly and actively engage the course material. Class assignments will be posted and will be due at regular times each week. See details below.

Although the course can be taken full asynchronously, students are encouraged to use the dedicated lecture time to engage class material and take advantage of office hours and discussions. Students should schedule dedicated time in their week to complete course assignments.

Office hours
Office hours will be held in two modes
• Open office hours will be every Tu/Th 10:00-10:30am for groups of students. No appointments necessary, just drop in via zoom.
• Individual 10 minute meeting slots are available Tu/Th 10:30-11:00am; signup through google calendar. If you sign up for an appointment slot but then cannot make it, please cancel/delete the event so someone else can use the time.

All office hours will be via zoom, with links accessible through the course Canvas site.

Communication:
• This class will use Canvas for all communications, including Announcements.
• We'll actively use Canvas Discussion boards to address student questions about course logistics and content.
• If you have questions about logistics, post them on the Class Logistics first, before emailing.
• For personal or individual issues please post privately or email.
• Do not count on an immediate response to emails, especially if the message is sent outside of the normal workday (M-F 8:00am – 5:00pm).
Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Jan. 19</td>
<td>Introduction - why study humans and climate?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Drought in North America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Jan. 26</td>
<td>Big picture view of human history and climate change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Jan. 28</td>
<td>Climate system basics – Part 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Feb. 2</td>
<td>Climate system basics – Part 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>Human evolution – behind the scenes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>Diet and Migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>Megafauna &amp; Rewilding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>Agriculture’s origins and effects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>The Industrial Age and the Anthropocene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>It’s us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>no class (Well-Being Break is previous day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Mar. 2</td>
<td>Local impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Mar. 4</td>
<td>What do we do?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Grades are determined by 6 quizzes that are based on lecture materials and assigned videos and readings. See the schedule below for the dates each quiz opens and when it is due.

Extra credit points can be earned through participation in Surveys and Content Deep Dives. The total extra credit points will sum to the equivalent of 3% points on the total grade score.

The following grading scheme will be used in the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100 % to 94.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>&lt; 94.0 % to 90.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>&lt; 90.0 % to 87.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>&lt; 87.0 % to 84.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>&lt; 84.0 % to 80.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>&lt; 80.0 % to 77.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>&lt; 77.0 % to 74.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>&lt; 74.0 % to 70.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>&lt; 70.0 % to 67.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>&lt; 67.0 % to 64.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>&lt; 64.0 % to 61.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 61.0 % to 0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who obtain scores >100% due to extra credit will earn an A+

If you have questions about how grading during the COVID-19 pandemic is different, see the LSA F20-W21 undergraduate grading FAQ page.
Assignments
All quizzes are taken online via Canvas

Study Quizzes (SQ) – 40%: Three study (practice) quizzes are designed to be study aids. They are open note, un-timed and you can re-take each SQ as many times as you want as long as it is open. You can see your score (via the Canvas Gradebook) after each attempt but not the correct answers. Canvas will record the score from your last attempt. You will receive 1 point for each correct answer and at least 50% on each quiz if you attempt all questions. The 50% minimum score for attempted SQs will only be set when the final course grades are calculated – it won’t automatically appear in the Canvas Gradebook. The lowest SQ grade for each student will be dropped. Each study quiz is 8 questions. The SQs are un-timed but must be completed by the date the quiz closes.

Assessment Quizzes (AQ) – 60%: There are three assessment quizzes. Each AQ is 15 questions (multiple choice) and must be completed in 25 minutes. The AQs may contain material not covered on a SQ, however all material will have been covered in class prior to the opening date of the AQ. AQ grades are available by the following Thursday after the AQ closes.

Honor Pledge for Assessment Quizzes: Please do not confer with other students during the taking of the assessment quizzes and use only your own class resources (no open internet searches).

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR ASSESSMENT QUIZZES: The timer starts when you open the quiz on Canvas, and does not stop if you log-out. It is your responsibility to ensure that your internet connection is stable BEFORE starting the quiz.

Additional notes on quizzes:
A one-time 48-hour extension will be granted for any reason that an assessment quiz cannot be completed within the window it was open. Any request must be made via email prior to the close of the quiz.

No quizzes (study or assessment) can be repeated.

Time extensions for SSD accommodations will be honored on all assessment quizzes. Please provide Prof. Levin the appropriate paperwork as early as possible. This must be submitted by January 28 so there is ample time to make plans for AQ1 which is due on February 2.

Accommodations will be granted for students on university approved travel. Please give appropriate forms to Prof. Levin at least 48 hours prior to any quiz due dates that are affected.

You should leave ample time before the deadline before you take SQ1 and AQ1 in case you encounter technical difficulty or questions. Prof. Levin will not respond to last minute questions about the quizzes.
Quiz Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>OPENS (Thursday)</th>
<th>CLOSES (Tuesday)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SQ1</td>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Jan 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AQ1</td>
<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>Feb 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SQ2</td>
<td>Feb 4</td>
<td>Feb 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AQ2</td>
<td>Feb 11</td>
<td>Feb 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SQ3</td>
<td>Feb 18</td>
<td>Feb 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AQ3</td>
<td>Mar 2 (Tu)</td>
<td>Mar 4 (Th)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All quizzes will become available at 5pm on a Thursday (on date listed as “opens”) and will close at 10pm on the following Tuesday (date listed as “closes”), with the exception of AQ3 which opens on Tuesday March 2 and closes on Thursday March 4.

It is your responsibility to complete each quiz within the timeframe it is available.

Extra Credit

Surveys
- credit: 1 point per class
- frequency: every class
- open at 9am on the day of the class, open through 9pm of day of the next class
- purpose: helps you stay on top of engaging the course material
- purpose: helps Prof Levin stay aware of what you did and didn't understand

Content Deep Dives
-credit: extra credit
-opportunities for students to dig deeper into the course content, engage it and interact with classmates
-frequency: 2-3 opportunities throughout the course

Accommodations: If you require accommodations due to learning disabilities, religious practices, physical requirements, medical needs, university-related travel or any other reason, contact with Prof. Levin as soon as you can to make sure you have the accommodations you need. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Office located at G664 Haven Hall. The SSD phone number is 734-763-3000. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation (VISA) form.

If something occurs that affects and changes your ability to participate in the class, contact Prof. Levin as soon as possible.

Students may also use the LSA Illness reporting form for self-reporting an illness. This is a centralized way to make initial contact with all of a student's instructors but it does not
constitute an excused absence. Students need to make arrangements with the
instructors for each of their courses, including for this one.

Inclusion and the Virtual Classroom Community: this course aims to foster a strong
and respectful community in course interactions, where all students can succeed and
feel welcome regardless of their backgrounds. Any discriminatory statements or
behavior that threatens our community will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Please refer to this website for an up to date Discrimination and Harassment policy for
the University of Michigan: https://spg.umich.edu/policy/201.89-1

Mental Health and Wellbeing
Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and
their personal well-being. These may include academic pressures and challenges
associated with relationships, mental health, alcohol or other drugs, identities, finances,
etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help is a courageous thin to do for yourself
and those who care about you. If the source of your stressors is academic, please
contact me so that we can find solutions together. For personal concerns, U-M offers a
variety of resources, many which are listed on the Resources for Student Well-being
webpage. You can also search for additional well-being resources here.

Recordings
Students are prohibited from recording/distributing any class activity without written
permission from the instructor, except as necessary as part of approved
accommodations for students with disabilities. Any class recordings may only be used
for the student’s own private use.

Academic Integrity: In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations
include cheating on exams, plagiarism, improper use of the internet and electronic
devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, lying, facilitating
academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. Ask for clarification if you are uncertain of
what constitutes a violation. Consult LSA guidelines and ask for clarification if you have
questions. Take the LSA Academic Integrity Quiz to test your knowledge.
LSA Guidelines: https://lsa.umich.edu/lsa/academics/academic-integrity.html
Quiz: https://webapps.lsa.umich.edu/SAA/UGStuAdv/App/AcadInt/AcadInt.aspx