MT1000 – Introduction to Weather Community
CRN 11200 (1 Credit)
Fall, 2015
Lead Instructor: Dr. Sam Miller

TIME AND LOCATION:
Dates (all on Mondays): 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/19, 10/26, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30 and 12/7.
Time: 4:00 – 4:50 PM, except for 12/7, which will meet at 6:00 PM.
Room: Boyd 303.

OFFICE AND CONTACT INFORMATION:
Office: Boyd Science Center, Room 317
Tel: 535-2811
Web: **stmiller@plymouth.edu**
Web: **http://vortex.plymouth.edu/~stmiller**
Facebook: **wxnil**
Office hours: MW 2:00 – 3:15 PM; WF 9:30 – 10:30 AM

SYLLABUS

GENERAL INFORMATION

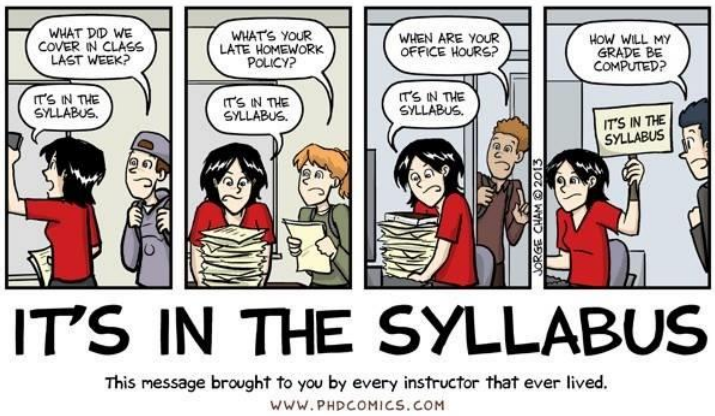
COURSE DESCRIPTION**:** This course will serve as an introduction to the meteorology major for first-semester students. The purposes of the course are to (1) introduce new meteorology students to the meteorology faculty, staff, and resources; (2) help new students make the transition from the "high-school environment" to the "college environment;" (3) introduce key ideas for success in the major and in professional careers beyond college, including study skills, critical thinking in physical sciences, the importance of a strong work ethic, and professional conduct and integrity; and (4) areas of career engagement in the field of meteorology, including forecasting for public and private sectors, research, and broadcasting. Course will be team-taught by several faculty members, and meet once per week for 45 minutes. Round-table discussions; presentations by students and faculty. Open to meteorology majors only, or others with permission of the lead instructor.

PREREQUISITE: None.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: After completing this course, students will:
- *Know the meteorology faculty, staff and graduate students, as well as each other.*
- *Be familiar with strategies and good habits for success in one of the university's most challenging majors.*
- *Have an understanding of the different directions their careers in meteorology can take them, including academic, scientific, weather forecasting, and broadcasting.*
- *Form a cohort of students who will go through their undergraduate programs together.*
- *Develop a professional electronic portfolio.*

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: None.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Plymouth State University is committed to providing students with documented disabilities equal access to all university programs and facilities. If you think you have a disability requiring accommodations, you should immediately contact the PASS Office in Lamson Library (535-2270) to determine whether you are eligible for such accommodations. Academic accommodations will only be considered for students who have registered with the PASS Office. If you have a Letter of Accommodation for this course from the PASS Office, please provide the instructor with that information privately so that you and the instructor can review those accommodations.



COURSEWORK

Coursework will consist of discussions with meteorology faculty and graduate students on a wide range of topics about the field. There will be a few in-class exercises.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed on their *active participation* (beyond simply attending) in class discussions and exercises.

GRADING: Pass or Fail.

Note that there are no "extra credit projects." *For more about this, please see the 2015-2016 PSU Academic Catalog, pp. 40 – 41, under "Fair Grading."*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FINAL EXAM: None.

OFFICE HOURS: The lead instructor's formally scheduled office hours are noted at the top of the syllabus, but please feel free to stop by at any time. If you want to schedule an appointment, please contact me via email: **stmiller@plymouth.edu.**

QUALITY OF WORK: Make sure that your writing is legible and any drawings or marks that you need to make on class work are neat and clear. You cannot get credit for what we cannot read or understand.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend class. Role will only be called at the beginning of the semester to verify rosters. Valid reasons for an excused absence and appropriate documentation are discussed on-line. Please see **http://vortex.plymouth.edu/~stmiller**, then follow the links to "Courses: PSU" and "Attendance/Assignments Policy."

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Please refer to Plymouth State University's academic integrity policy in 2015-2016 Academic Catalog, pp. 37 – 40.

OTHER ISSUES:

- Please refrain from using your cell phone during class – please turn off the ringer and keep the phone off the desk during class.
- Please do not use your MP3 player or any other small electronic devices during class.
- Please arrive on time and stay through the entire period, or until dismissed by the instructor.
- Please be aware of campus emergency procedures, available on-line at **http://www.plymouth.edu/emergency**

TENTATIVE OUTLINE

- 9/14 – Dr. Miller: Cultural differences between college and high school. Reading assignment for homework.

- 9/21 – Dr. Miller: Discussion about critical and quantitative thinking.

- 9/28 – Prof. Hoch: Rooftop Instrumentation & Meteorology Software/Website Features.

- 10/19 – Dr. Hoffman: Exploring the Meteorology Curriculum - An interactive exploration of the courses you need to take in Meteorology and to complete your degree at Plymouth State University. Please read before coming to class: Meteorology Degree Requirements (pp. 80-81), Meteorology Course Descriptions (pp. 263-265), and General Education Requirements (pp.60 - 64) from the Plymouth State University Academic Catalog (**https://www.plymouth.edu/academics/files/2015/05/2015-16AcademicCatalog.pdf**).

- 10/26 – Dr. Hoffman: Looking to the future – Scholarships and Undergraduate Research Experiences.

- 11/9 – Dr. Aviles: Academics and professional work ethic, study skills, Q&A and FAQ, writing exercise.

- 11/16 – Dr. Aviles: Meteorology Degree Academic Portfolio - Introduction and setup. *NOTE: Meet in Boyd 306.*

- 11/23 – Dr. Kelsey: Types of meteorological careers, and internships that will help get you there.

- 11/30 – Dr. Cordeira: Effective communication in meteorology.

- 12/7: Social gathering for meteorology faculty and staff, and first-semester meteorology majors, location TBA.