

**Department of Anthropology**

**ANTHRO 2288B-650: Climate, Science and the Changing World**

**BRIEF COURSE OUTLINE**

**Winter 2025**

*Date: July 26, 2024*

**Instructor and course information:**

Instructor: Dr. Jeremy Trombley

Method of delivery: Online

Credit value: 0.5

Antirequisites: None.

Prerequisites: None.

**Course Description:**

The world is changing rapidly. Climate change is already affecting many people around the world and, without actions to curtail greenhouse gas emissions, it will have dramatic effects on all of our lives. Meanwhile, social and political upheaval – some driven in part by changing climates – have transformed our ways of life and limited our capacity to effectively address climate change. In this course, we will examine the intersecting dynamics of climate change, climate science, and socio-political change. You will learn to take a holistic perspective as you evaluate the ways that change – in many forms – is shaping our lives and futures.

This course will be structured in three modules. In the first module, we will examine the science of climate change, how it is affecting people now and how it will affect us all in the future. Key to this section will be understanding climate change as a fundamentally social process rather than a natural one. We will examine issues of climate justice and how some people benefit from climate change while others are harmed by it. In the second module, we will examine climate science itself. Again, we will seek to understand climate science as a social process. We will discuss the ways that climate science has developed and changed over time, and how broader social processes are pushing it to change even more now. In the final module, we will examine social changes around the world that are affecting our ability to respond and adapt to climate change effectively. These social changes include the rise of right-wing political movements, increasing corporatization, and the use of mis- and disinformation to derail climate responses.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL Brightspace site before the first day of class.

**Course Materials:**

No textbook. Required readings will be available through the Course Readings tool on the course site.

**Evaluation:**

Grades will be based on the following:

Example Format 1:

- Course Engagement (30%)
- 10 Weekly Activities (50%)
- Group Documentary Project (20%)

~ End ~