**Course Overview:** This one semester upper level course on climate and society and climate risk management will explore multiple aspects of the intersection of climate change, climate variability and society. There are no prerequisites, but having some familiarity with the subject and/or having taken Geography 101 or 102 will be beneficial.

Climate change and its associated implications constitute one of the great challenges our global society faces in the 21st century. As this issue is vast and multifaceted, we will explore the associated challenges through several different perspectives, including both domestic and international lenses. Topics covered will include:

- climate system science (with foci on the coupled ocean atmosphere system, the science behind climate assessment, and climate extremes)
- energy (both fossil fuel and alternative)
- policy and equity discourse of mitigation and adaptation (both domestic and international) *
- climate and water, climate and agriculture (both domestic and international)
- climate and public health, coastal and low-lying vulnerability, climate and cities, infrastructure and transportation (both domestic and international)
*this discussion may also involve some discourse on climate as a security issue

The instruction for much of first half of the term will be lecture-oriented, but most of the rest of the class will be discussion-oriented.

**Academic Integrity**
Students are expected to understand and to act in accordance with the Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy: [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/policy-on-academic-integrity](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/policy-on-academic-integrity)

**General expectations:** Please be respectful and engaged. Please do not text, check facebook, etc., during class.

**Readings:** There is no textbook required for the course, although students are encouraged to purchase

However, all readings, whether from textbooks, journal articles or reports will be made available electronically through the course website.
Grading:
Assignment on climate science (50 points)
Midterm exam (100 points)
Short writing assignments (500-700 words) on three of the four two week units (20 points each/60 total)
Class participation (30 points)
Short presentation on final paper research (20 points)
Final paper on topic of student’s choosing (2000-3000 words) (100 points)
Course Total (360 points)

More detailed course schedule
Week 1, January 20, 22: Introduction to the atmosphere and climate
Week 2, January 27, 29: Atmospheric and Oceanic Dynamics and precipitation
Week 3, February 3, 5: Coupled Atmosphere-Ocean Processes and Paleoclimate
Week 4, February 10, 12: 21st century Climate Change Science with an emphasis on the cryosphere
Week 5, February 17: Special Unit on Climate Extremes
Weeks 5 and 6, February 19, 24: Fossil Energy
Weeks 6 and 7, February 26, March 3: Alternative Energy
Week 7, March 5: Midterm
Week 8, March 10, 12: Climate Mitigation Discourse/Policy (US and international)

Spring Break March 17-21
Week 9, March 24, 26: Climate Adaptation Discourse/policy (domestic and international)
Week 10, March 31, April 2: Climate and Water provision
Week 11, April (2), 7, (9): Climate and Agriculture
Week 12, April 14, (16): Climate and Health
Week 12 April (16), (21): Coastal and low-lying area vulnerability
Week 13 April 21, 23: Climate and Cities, Infrastructure and Transportation
Week 14 and 15 April 28, 30 and May 5: student presentations and wrap up

A more detailed syllabus is available on request and will be available on the course website.