

**SIO115 Ice and the Climate System  
Syllabus & Timetable 2019  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9am in Revelle Conference  
Room (4301)**

*Please put your cell phones/iPhones etc away before coming into my classes. If you are a medical person on call, or if you have children or if there is some other legitimate reason why you might need to take a phone call during my class, then let me know. But otherwise, please do not text/surf the web/whatever during my classes!*

**Homework is assigned each Friday and due the following Friday.**

**HELPFUL NOTES TO ASSIST IN PAPER READING AND DISCUSSION**

**Week 1. Introduction to the Cryosphere in the Earth System**

- 7 January: Elements of the cryosphere; importance of the cryosphere \*\* [WEEK 1 SLIDES](#) \*\*
- 9 January: Role of the cryosphere in the climate system; sea-level change
- 11 January: paper & book discussion

Discussion papers: [Scambos et al. 2011](#); [Barry, 2002](#)  
[Guardian article 8 Jan 2019](#)

[Guidelines for paper discussions](#)

Additional reading: *Chapter 1 of "The Cryosphere" by Shawn Marshall.*  
*Chapters 1, 2 and 3 of the [UNEP Report](#)*

**Homework 1 (due Friday 18 January):** [Cryosphere and its importance for climate](#)

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**Week 2. Past climate change and past climate records**

- 14 January: Ice cores [Video](#) \*\* [WEEK 2 SLIDES](#) \*\*
- 7pm [Public talk by Helen at Birch Aquarium](#) on the SALSA project
- 16 January: Ice ages (Jeff Severinghaus guest lecture)
- 18 January: Paper discussion for ice cores and ice ages (Lorius and Petit)

Discussion papers: [Lorius et al. 1985](#) ; [Petit et al. 1999](#)  
[BBC Article 14 Nov 2016](#)

Additional reading: *Ice cores sections of "The Cryosphere" by Shawn Marshall (see*

Index).

[Ice cores and climate change fact sheet: British Antarctic Survey](#)  
[van Ommen, The Conversation, 2016](#)  
[Wolff, The Conversation, 2014](#)

**Homework 2 (due Friday 25 January):** [Ice Cores and Past Climate](#) Data for homework [Icecore\\_data.txt](#) [NHinso1.txt](#)

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### Week 3. Snow cover, river ice and lake ice

- 21 January: MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY -- NO CLASS
- 23 January: Snow cover [All lecture slides](#)
- 8:30am-12:15pm [Scripps Polar Town Hall](#)
- 25 January: River Ice and lake Ice

Discussion paper: [Mackay and Swann, The Conversation, 2019](#); [Reinmann and Templer, The Conversation, 2018](#); [EGU Blog post on River Ice](#)

Additional reading: Chapters 2, 3 and 4 of *The Cryosphere* by Shawn Marshall.

[Greenland Ice Sheet Ice Age video](#)

**Homework 3 (due Friday 1 February): Snow cover and lake ice**

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### Week 4. Lake ice & permafrost

- 28 January: Permafrost [Lecture slides](#)
- 30 January: Permafrost
- 1 February: Permafrost contd

Discussion papers on permafrost:

- Airborne electromagnetic imaging of discontinuous permafrost [Minsley et al., 2012](#)
- The impact of the permafrost carbon feedback on global climate [Schaefer et al., 2014](#)

Suggested additional reading: Chapter 7 of "The Cryosphere" (~14 easy pages)

Chapter 7 of UNEP report [NEW UNEP REPORT ON PERMAFROST](#)

[Duguay 2005 AGU book chapter](#)

WATCH: [AWI video on Permafrost](#)

[AGU 2015 Fall meeting press conference on Permafrost](#)

**Homework 4 (due Friday 8 February):** [Permafrost](#)

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### Week 5. Sea ice

- 4 February: Sea ice; ice-albedo feedback; sea-ice types Lectures

- 6 February: Sea ice growth; monitoring sea-ice extent and thickness
- 8 February: Future projections; fast ice.

Discussion papers: article in the [Huffington Post](#) [Laxon et al., 2013](#) [Schroeder et al., 2014](#)

[Interactive sea-ice map from NSIDC](#)  
[Arctic Sea-ice 101 \(Program Manager Tom Wagner\)](#)

Suggested additional reading: Chapter 5 of "The Cryosphere" (~20 easy pages)  
 Chapter 5 of UNEP report [Arctic Report Card 2014](#) (see 18 December item on class media page)

**Homework 5 (due Friday 15 February):** [Sea ice](#)

### **Week 6. Land ice: Glaciers and ice caps (GIC)**

- 11 February: Introduction to glaciers; contribution of GIC to sea-level; transformation of snow to ice
- 13 February: Glacier mass balance
- 15 February: Glacier mass balance & measurement Discussion paper: [Gardner et al., 2013](#), [Maurer et al., 2016](#)

Suggested additional reading: relevant section of Chapter 6 of UNEP report [World Glacier Monitoring Service](#)  
[Huffington Post article about Maurer et al.](#), [Scientific American update on Alaskan Glaciers](#)  
[Glacier animation shown in class](#)

### **READ INSTRUCTIONS FOR TERM PAPER**

**Homework 6 (due Friday 22 February):** [Glacier mass budget](#)

**Please research your term paper to the point that you can answer question 1 on next week's homework:**

1. *Term paper.* By now you should have a topic picked out for your term paper. Please write a concise, clear paragraph (150-200 words) on what your topic is about, and provide three real peer-reviewed references that you have looked at on this topic. [10]

### **Week 7. Land ice: Ice sheets (Greenland & Antarctica)**

- 18 February: **PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY - NO CLASS**
- 20 February: Mass balance of ice sheets; ice streams
- 22 February: Ice-ocean interaction; basal melting; surface melting; iceberg calving -- Greenland and Antarctica

**Homework 7 (due Friday 1 March): [Glaciers and ice sheets](#)**

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**Week 8. Land ice: Ice sheets (Greenland & Antarctica)**

**\*\*\*\* A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO PLEASE FILL IN YOUR CAPE FORMS :-**

**) <http://www.cape.ucsd.edu>\*\*\*\***

- 25 February: surface melting in Greenland Discussion paper: [Rignot et al., 2002](#)
- 27 February: Glacier dynamics: creep; flow-law; force balance ice dynamics Ice dynamics (Matt Siegfried)
- 1 March: Subglacial water; subglacial processes; subglacial lakes Discussion paper: [Fenty et al. 2016](#)

**Homework 8 (due Friday 8 March): [Glacier and ice sheet dynamics & hydrology](#)**

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**Week 9. Changes in glaciers and ice sheets**

- 4 March: Subglacial lakes; glacier surges Lecture slides Discussion paper: [Stearns et al., 2008](#)
- 6 March: Marine ice sheet instability; ice sheet changes Discussion paper: [Sundal et al., 2011](#)
- 8 March: Ice sheet changes & future predictions Discussion paper: [Joughin and others, 2014](#)

Read [2014 media page](#) about the West Antarctic Ice Sheet instability

[Link to VICE program on Antarctic mass loss](#)

**\*\*\*\* PLEASE FILL IN YOUR CAPE FORMS <http://www.cape.ucsd.edu> \*\*\*\***

**No homework -- work on your presentation and term paper.**

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Week 10. Student lightning presentations of term papers (10 minutes each)

**Please send me your presentation ahead of time so I can get them uploaded on my computer**

**\*\*\*\* PLEASE FILL IN YOUR CAPE FORMS <http://www.cape.ucsd.edu> \*\*\*\***

- 11 March: Group A
- 13 March: Group B
- 15 March: Group C

Please show up to all term paper presentations to support your fellow students!

Final term papers are due in class on **Friday 15th March**, typed up and printed out as a hard-copy on both sides of the paper.

There will be no exceptions to this deadline unless there is a valid medical reason.

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*Week 11. Exam week*

[EXAM STUDY GUIDE](#)

**Final Exam Monday 20th March 2017**  
**[SIO115 2017 EXAM](#) due by 3pm PDT (see below)**

*Email your exam to [hafricker@ucsd.edu](mailto:hafricker@ucsd.edu) with the subject line "SIO115: Final Exam 2017" and name your file "Lastname-SIO115\_Final2017.PDF or doc". The deadline is a **strict deadline with no excuses!***

Good luck everyone !