Syllabus:
Goals: What you can expect from us.

Our main goals for this semester are:
1. To provide information on the interactions between the different elements of the climate system (atmosphere, ocean, sea/land ice, etc) and on the dominant feedbacks so that you can understand the working of the climate system and the mechanisms governing its variability and response to external perturbations;
2. to help you do well in this course; and
3. to facilitate your growth and development as a student at the University of Arizona.

What we expect of you.

1. **Textbook**: Online textbook (http://stratus.astr.ucl.ac.be/textbook/)

2. **Attendance**: We expect you to come to every class, to get the most out of the course, but attendance will not be taken.

3. **Grades**: Undergraduates: Problem sets: 40% (9 sets, each 100 points); Exams: 40% (2 times, each 100 points); Final Paper and Presentation (optional); In-class presentations and participation: 20% (100 points).
   Graduates: Problem sets: 30% (9 sets, each 100 points); Exams: 30% (2 times, each 100 points); Final Paper and Presentation: 20% (100 points); In-class presentations and participation: 20% (100 points).

   * A = >89.5%
   * B = 79.5% to 89.4%
   * C = 69.5% to 79.4%
   * D = 59.5% to 69.4%
   * E = <59.5%

   a) **Problem sets**: There will be about 8-10 problem sets during the semester. These will emphasize material that will be covered on the exams. Most of the exercises will be based on concepts from class meetings and readings. Many of the problem sets will
require computations using spreadsheets (e.g., Excel), so you should know how to use Excel or an equivalent program.

b) **Exams**: Two 100 point exams will be given during the semester, a mid-term and a final.

c) **Final Paper and Presentation**: At the end of the semester, students will submit a final (approximately 8-15 pages) paper and make a 10-minute presentation on a topic related to Earth-systems. Proposals for topics must be received no later than 10 November. We will help you choose an appropriate topic and provide guidance on making an effective scientific presentation. Start planning for this early.

4. **Grade Reporting**: Grades will be available through D2L.

5. **Graded Work**: All graded material will be returned to you in class one week after they are due. You have one week make sure they were graded correctly -- bring to J. Russell or J. Yin if not!

6. **Cheating**: Cheating is any attempt to represent someone else's work (on exams, quizzes, homework, extra credit exercises, etc.) as your own. It's great to work outside of class with friends, but material turned in must be your own thoughts and words. Do not include someone else's sentences or statements without appropriate reference. Identical work will be given a zero the first time. The second time, you will be referred to the Dean of Students, it will go on your academic record, and you may be expelled from the University. For more information, refer to the UA Code of Academic Integrity.