

Meteorology

Graduates work to understand natural processes on Earth and other planets. They are able to apply their knowledge of forces and factors that shape the Earth to reconstruct the past and anticipate the future. Graduates provide essential information for solving problems for resource management, environmental protection, and public health, safety, and welfare. They work as consultants on engineering and environmental problems, explorers for new minerals and hydrocarbon resources, researchers, teachers, writers, editors, and museum curators. Graduates are able to integrate field and laboratory data and to prepare reports. They are able to make presentations that include maps and diagrams that illustrate the results of their studies.

The study of Meteorology involves the description of the earth's atmosphere and the processes responsible for its behavior. Students majoring in Meteorology earn the bachelor of science. The major satisfies guidelines specified by the American Meteorological Society and meets education requirements for employment with the National Weather Service and the World Meteorological Organization. Successful preparation for professional or graduate work in Meteorology requires that the student develop and integrate a diverse range of skills and knowledge bases. These include weather observing, the physics and dynamics of the global atmosphere, application of new weather technologies, advanced mathematical tools, computer programming and modeling, and effective oral and written communication. The faculty view the senior thesis (MTEOR 499 Senior Research), in particular, as a capstone experience in which students demonstrate they have achieved this integration. Also, contemporary meteorology is an earth-system science with ties to a variety of human experiences. The electives and general education requirements of the college are further experiences that the meteorology student must integrate with their core meteorology knowledge in order to function effectively in a globally-oriented profession. The program requires the following courses:

MTEOR 111	Synoptic Applications	1
MTEOR 201	Introductory Seminar	R
MTEOR 206	Introduction to Weather and Climate	3
MTEOR 301	General Meteorology	4
MTEOR 311	Introduction to Synoptic Meteorology	2
MTEOR 341	Atmospheric Physics I	3
MTEOR 342	Atmospheric Physics II	3
MTEOR 411	Synoptic Meteorology	3
MTEOR 417	Mesoscale Forecasting Laboratory	3
MTEOR 432	Instrumentation and Measurements	3
MTEOR 443	Dynamic Meteorology I	3
MTEOR 454	Dynamic Meteorology II	3
MTEOR 499	Senior Research	2
Total Credits		33

An additional 9 credits must be chosen from:

MTEOR 402	Watershed Hydrology	4
MTEOR 404	Global Change	3
MTEOR 405	Environmental Biophysics	3
MTEOR 406	World Climates	3
MTEOR 407	Mesoscale Meteorology	3
MTEOR 452	Climate Modeling	3
MTEOR 490	Independent Study	1-3
GEOL 415	Paleoclimatology	3
or C E 372	Engineering Hydrology and Hydraulics	

Supporting work is required in areas at least equivalent to:

One of the following sequences		4
CHEM 163 & 163L	College Chemistry and Laboratory in College Chemistry	
Or		
CHEM 177 & 177L	General Chemistry I and Laboratory in General Chemistry I	
COM S 207	Fundamentals of Computer Programming	3
PHYS 221	Introduction to Classical Physics I	5
PHYS 222	Introduction to Classical Physics II	5
MATH 165	Calculus I	4
MATH 166	Calculus II	4

MATH 265	Calculus III	4
MATH 266	Elementary Differential Equations	3
STAT 105	Introduction to Statistics for Engineers	3
SP CM 212	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3

Total Credits **38**

A grade of C or better (not C-) is required in each of the following courses to meet minimum graduation requirements for a bachelor of science degree in Meteorology:

MTEOR 206	Introduction to Weather and Climate	3
MTEOR 301	General Meteorology	4

Several co-op programs are available for upper division undergraduates. Although a range of opportunities exists for men and women who terminate their studies with a bachelor of science, students who meet the necessary academic standards are encouraged to continue their studies in a graduate program. For these students, additional coursework is recommended in a mathematical or physical science. Other students can choose a wide range of supporting courses that will contribute to their particular area of interest in meteorology.

See Four-Year Graduation Plan: B.S. in Meteorology - Path 1: For students prepared to start in calculus

See Four-Year Graduation Plan: B.S. in Meteorology - Path 2: For students needing preparatory mathematics prior to calculus

Minor - Meteorology

The department offers a minor in Meteorology which may be earned by completing 15 credits including MTEOR 111 Synoptic Applications (only 1 credit may count toward the minor), MTEOR 206 Introduction to Weather and Climate and MTEOR 301 General Meteorology. Further information concerning programs of study, including sample degree programs, is available from the department.