**ATMO 101 – Weather and Climate Midterm Study Sheet**

**Chapters 1 through 5 – Exam Thursday 2/15/2018**

**Worth 100 points Multiple Choice & True/False Questions**

You are responsible for the following words:

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| **Chapter 1**  troposphere  stratosphere  mesosphere  thermosphere  ionosphere  temperature inversion  ozone  aerosols  carbon dioxide  radiosonde  weather  climate  air pressure  air density | **Chapter 2**  albedo  thermals  Kelvin Scale  Fahrenheit Scale  Celsius Scale  ultraviolet radiation  Infrared radiation  black body  aurora borealis  aurora australis  summer solstice  winter solstice  vernal equinox  autumnal equinox  greenhouse effect | **Chapter 3**  radiation cooling  isotherm  daily range of temperature  annual range of temperature  mean daily temperature  mean annual temperature  heating degree-day  cooling degree-day  growing degree-day  wind-chill index |
| **Chapter 4**  advection fog  radiation fog  upslope fog  evaporation fog  dew-point temp  relative humidity  hydrologic cycle  saturated air  condensation  evaporation  precipitation  transpiration  frost  dew virga | **Chapter 5**  adiabatic process  dry adiabatic rate  moist adiabatic rate  environmental lapse rate  absolutely stable  absolutely unstable  conditionally stable  orographic uplift  rain shadow  cloud seeding  collision-coalescence  ice-crystal (Bergeron) Process  supercooled droplet | **Chapter 5 (con’t)**  ice nuclei  sleet  drizzle  freezing rain (glaze)  rime  virga |

**Make flash cards, re-write your notes, have friends quiz you… do whatever you need to do to know these words!**

**TOP 20 TOPICS YOU NEED TO KNOW (Ch 1 and Ch 2)**

1) Composition of the First Atmosphere of the Earth

2) Composition of the Primeval Atmosphere

3) Composition of the Modern (current) Atmosphere (Gases and Particles)

4) Layers and Boundaries of the Atmosphere (names), how and why temperature changes with height

5) How and Why Pressure changes with increasing height, know standard surface pressure value

6) The difference between weather and climate

7) Definition of Temperature and Heat, know the different temperature scales (boiling & freezing)

8) Know when energy is absorbed or released during changes of state (e.g. solid🡪liquid🡪gas)

9) Methods of Heat Transfer (Conduction, Convection, Radiation)

10) Types of Electromagnetic Radiation

11) Know what wavelength the Sun and Earth predominately emit

12) Know the THREE Laws of Radiation

13) Know what the “Atmospheric Window” Is

14) Be able to explain/describe the Greenhouse Effect and which Gases are responsible

15) Know the difference between reflection, scattering, absorption and emission.

16) Know what “Albedo” means, and what the Earth’s albedo is

17) Be able to describe how clouds interact with radiation (warming and/or cooling the Earth)

18) Be able to describe Earth-Sun relationships (rotation, revolution, eccentricity, tilt

19) Know why we have seasons (and what would change them – stronger or weaker)

20) Understand the Seasons, Equinoxes, Solstices and Length of Daylight

**Ch 1 & 2 EXAMPLE True or False:**

These questions are based on the lecture notes and text book readings. Below are some examples of the types of questions I could ask. They, obviously, won’t be the exact ones on the midterm but something similar.

Examples:

1) Temperature increases in the stratosphere due to ozone. True False

2) The sun emits gamma radiation but not radio waves. True False

3) The albedo of the Earth is 0.8. True False

4) Ultraviolet radiation has a shorter wavelength than AM radio waves. True False

5) The intensity of the seasons would change if the Earth’s tilt changed. True False

6) Greenhouse gasses cool the Earth. True False

7) Clouds are only responsible for warming the Earth. True False

8) The Aurora Borealis is located in the Ionosphere. True False

9) Dust and volcanic ash are considered aerosols. True False

10) The Celsius scale has 180 divisions between boiling and freezing. True False

**Ch 1 & 2 EXAMPLE Multiple Choice:**

11) The layer of the atmosphere that interacts with radio waves is:

a. Mesosphere b. Stratopause c. Ionosphere d. Troposphere

12) Which temperature is referred to as the “absolute scale”?

a. Celsius b. Kelvin c. Fahrenheit d. centigrade

13) The sun emits the majority of its energy as what type of radiation?

a. Visible b. Microwave c. Infrared d. Ultra Violet

14) During which process is energy released into the environment?

a. Evaporation b. Condensation c. Sublimation d. Melting

15) During which celestial event is the Earth farthest from the sun and pointed towards the sun?

a. Winter Solstice b. Vernal Equinox c. Summer Solstice d. Autumnal Equinox

**TOP 25 TOPICS YOU NEED TO KNOW (Ch 3, Ch 4 and Ch 5)**

1) Explain why at the surface during the day the air heats up and at night the air cools down.

2) Be able to explain what a temperature inversion is.

3) Be able to describe the different timescales we average temperature over and why.

4) Be able to list and briefly describe the various controls of temperature.

5) Be able to identify the effects of solar heating and ocean currents on global temperature.

6) Be able to draw a sketch showing changes in temperature over 24 hours with and without clouds.

7) Be able to describe the use of and how to calculate: heating, cooling and growing degree-days

8) Explain what the wind-chill index is and how it is used.

9) Be able to draw a simple sketch of “the hydrologic cycle” and explain each part

10) Know if energy is released or required for the various aspects of the hydrologic cycle.

11) Be able to differentiate between the different measurements of humidity.

12) Know what the term “saturated” means and how it is connected to humidity and the water cycle.

13) Be able to describe what the term dew-point temperature means and how it is related to clouds.

14) Be able to differentiate between dew and frost and explain how each is formed.

15) Be able to identify, describe and sketch the different types of fog.

16) Be able to identify the different cloud types in photographs and know their approximate heights.

17) Know the difference between the dry, moist and environmental lapse rates.

18) Describe differences between conditionally stable, absolutely stable and absolutely unstable air.

19) Know the “recipe” for making a cloud.

20) Be able to identify and draw the four primary ways for causing air to rise.

21) Be able to describe and sketch a diagram for the collision-coalescence process.

22) Be able to describe and sketch a diagram for the ice-crystal (Bergeron) process.

23) Where on earth does the collision-coalescence process dominate? The Bergeron process?

24) Describe the vertical atmospheric conditions require for the different types of precipitation.

25) Be able to describe the process and draw a diagram for hail stone formation.

**Ch 3, 4 & 5 EXAMPLE True or False:**

These questions are based on the lecture notes and text book readings. Below are some examples of the types of questions I could ask. They, obviously, won’t be the exact ones on the quiz but something similar.

Examples:

1) Altocumulus clouds are composed only of ice True False

2) Growing degree-days are crop dependent. True False

3) Radiation fog is the dominant fog type found in the Great Plains . True False

4) Air is saturated when temperature and dew point temperature are equal. True False

5) Frost is frozen dew. True False

6) The dominate type of fog in coastal northern CA is upslope fog. True False

7) Rain drops are teardrop shaped. True False

8) The DALR and WALR are both used for rising air. True False

9) Relative Humidity describes the actual water content in the air. True False

10) Cold air can “hold” more water vapor than warm air. True False

11) Lenticular clouds are always found over the open ocean. True False

12) A cooling degree-day occurs when temperatures are under 65°F. True False

**Ch 3, 4 & 5 EXAMPLE Multiple Choice:**

13) The Dry Adiabatic Lapse Rate is:

a. 10°F/ 1000 m b. 1°C/1000 m

c. 10°F/ 1000 ft d. 10°C/1000 m

14) Collision-Coalescence is the process which describes

a. CCN activation b. cloud development

c. aurora formation d. warm rain formation

15) Which term is not associated with icy precipitation types

a. fallstreaks b. flurries

c. virga d. blizzard

16) Hailstones form in which type of clouds?

a. cirrus b. cumulonimbus

c. mammatus d. stratus

17) In an unstable atmosphere, a lifted parcel of air will tend to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. rise b. remain at the same level

c. sink d. advect to a colder location