

Climate Change Certificate  
School of Environment, Society & Sustainability | University of Utah  
260 Central Campus Drive, Gardner Commons Rm 4625  
Salt Lake City, UT 84112 | 801-581-8218  
<https://ess.utah.edu/>

Human alteration of Earth's climate is an accepted scientific fact (Anderegg et al., 2010; IPCC, 2007; Oreskes, 2004). As a result of the politicization of the issue and poor communication by the scientific community, the public and private sectors have gained limited knowledge of how the climate system operates, the science of climate change research, and societal impacts of these changes. As the impacts of climate change become more severe over the coming years and decades, companies, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations will be required to adapt and respond to climate change. Scientifically-based, up-to-date knowledge is essential to formulating adaptation and response strategies. A certificate in climate change is marketable evidence of this essential knowledge.



This program will provide you with cutting edge knowledge about climate, climate change, impacts and relevance. By earning this certificate, you will:

- Understand the fundamentals of climate systems.
- Understand the fundamentals and scientific background of climate change.
- Understand the science of global warming.
- Learn about mitigation and adaptation strategies for dealing with climate change.
- Learn how climate change permeates nearly every aspect of our lives.

This certificate would be valuable to a wide range of career options including but not limited to:

- land managers, governmental employees, environmental and social equity advocates, and environmental consultants;
- local, state, and federal government administrators;
- natural and geological science researchers, scientists, planners, and policy-makers; as well as individuals looking to be better global citizens by understanding the science behind climate change.



GOES (Satellite) Image of Hurricane Sandy (NASA)

*Program requirements – Must be a degree-seeking student at the University of Utah*

Category	Course	Title	Credit Hours
Required	*ATMOS 5400 or GEOG 3205	The Climate System Climate Change Foundations	3
	GEOG 5210	Global Climate Change	3
	GEOG 5215	Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation & Mitigation	3
	<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>9</b>
	3 Elective Courses	*ATMOS 3100	Atmospheric Chemistry & Air Pollution
ATMOS 3200/GEOG 3280		Mountain Weather and Climate	3
BIOL 3440		Global Change Ecology	3
BIOL 3460		Global Environmental Issues	3
BIOL 5440		Urban Ecology	3
*BIOL 5490		Ecosystem Ecology	3
COMM 5365		Communicating Climate Change	3
*ENVST 3365		Environmental Justice	3
GEO 3300		The Water Planet	3
GEO 5675		Paleoclimate Reconstruction	3
GEOG 3090		Health Geography in the Age of Global Pandemics	3
GEOG 3270		Biogeography: Global Patterns of Life	3
*GEOG 5410		Paleoclimatology	3
GEOG 5460		Popular Literature on Global Change	3
		<b>Sub-Total (minimum)</b>	
	<b>Certificate Total</b>	<b>18-19 credits</b>	



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

**SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT,  
SOCIETY & SUSTAINABILITY**