EAS 32800 — Global Environmental Hazards Course Syllabus

Spring Semester, 2016

Course Description:

Study of important, naturally-occurring, destructive phenomena such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, hurricanes, tornados, and coastal flooding. Long-term causes and remediation of these problems. Topics will focus on consequences to urban environments.

Class Meetings: Fridays 9:00-11:30 in MR-117

Instructors:

Prof. James F. Booth
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Prof. Steve Kidder
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Office Hours: After class; Wednesdays 11am-noon; or by appointment.

Grading:

- 30% Exam 1
- 30% Exam 2 (on day of final)
- 20% In-class participation and/or clicker quizzes
- 20% Homework

Grade Scoring

• 100-97.5 / **97.5-92.5** / 92.5-90	A+/A/A-
• 89-87.5 / **87.5-82.5** / 92.5-80	B+/B/B-
• 79-77.5 / **77.5-72.5** / 72.5-70	C+/C/C-
• 69-60	D
• 59 or below	F

Textbook: No textbook. Regular readings will be assigned and can be downloaded from blackboard.

Clickers: Clickers are required for the class. Compatible clickers for this course include most Turning Technologies clickers: ResponseCard RF/LCD/SE/LT/XR/NXT or the QT device (The ResponseCard RF is the most basic and cheapest compatible option). NOTE: The ResponseCard IR will NOT work in the class. If you provide your own clicker (e.g. by purchasing one at the bookstore or eBay) you must send an email to professor Kidder with the device ID number, generally a six-digit code printed on the back of the clicker. If purchasing or renting a clicker is a significant financial obstacle for you please speak with one of the professors.

Course Objectives:
Students who will successfully complete this course are expected to be able to:

1. Understand the scientific method and be able to analyze hazardous events objectively.
2. Utilize basic concepts of mathematics, physics, and statistics as applied to natural hazards.
3. Learn principles of geology, and meteorology that relate to natural hazards.
4. Understand the methods scientists use to predict and assess the risk of natural hazards.
5. Synthesize the mechanisms through which earth processes affect and interact with our civilization, especially those that create hazards.

Getting Help: Questions during lecture are encouraged. If you are lost, please ask; you are probably not the only one in that position. For more extensive help with course content, you are encouraged to see Profs. Booth and Kidder, either by appointment or during regular office hours.

Academic Integrity: The CCNY policy on academic integrity will be followed in this course. A document describing this policy can be found through the CCNY website: http://www.ccny.cuny.edu/about/integrity.cfm. All students must read the details regarding plagiarism and cheating in order to be familiar with the rules of the college. Cases where academic integrity is compromised will be prosecuted according to these rules.