Topics in Climate Dynamics
1-credit
Monday 3-4 pm
MPO conference room
Professor Amy Clement

Course Description/Goal:
The field of climate dynamics is rapidly evolving. There are a number of issues that are being hotly debated within the scientific community, as well as in public arenas, but which are not covered in textbooks or traditional climate dynamics courses. The goal of this ‘Topics in Climate Dynamics’ course is to expose students to emerging topics in the literature, and to have them critically evaluate journal articles to identify advances as well as the questions that remain open.

Course Design:
Student participation will be central to this course. Each week, a student will present the topic of the week, which will be covered in 1-3 journal articles, and the student will be asked to respond to discussion questions that will be addressed in the readings (formulated by the professor). Each student is expected to present once during the semester. In addition, the student presenter will moderate the class blog (on blackboard) for that week, in which students will post comments and questions about the week’s readings. All students are expected to read all papers covered in the course.

Grading:
Presentations 80%
Blogs 20%

Topics:
Week 1: Course Introduction
Week 2-6: Internal climate variability
Week 7-11: Anthropogenic climate change
Week 12-13: Climate Policy
Week 14: Course wrap up