

12.757 Climate Change Science: Facts, Questions, Controversies and Communication

SPECIAL VERSION DEDICATED TO NEW IPCC REPORT

(6 Credits)

Sarah Das (MG&G, sdas@whoi.edu), Fiamma Straneo (PO, fstraneo@whoi.edu), and Young-Oh Kwon (PO, yokwon@whoi.edu).

Thursdays February 6th to May 15th at WHOI

Climate Change is one of the greatest challenges facing today's earth scientists (including oceanographers) and one that we believe all earth scientists should be familiar with. This course is designed to provide you with a basic knowledge of the 'big questions' behind today's climate change science and with the tools to discourse about climate change with diverse groups. **This year the course will focus on the newly released IPCC Report for the Physical Science Basis - covering most of the major themes** (see <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg1/>). Students who have already taken the course but are interested in reading the new IPCC report are welcome – since the format and material will be substantially different from the previous years.

The course format will include weekly student presentations, a short weekly written assignments and a final group project. We will meet once a week for one and a half hours. Local experts relevant to some of the chapters will be invited to participate in the discussion. As part of the course, we will also discuss non-refereed outlets such as climate science blogs and climate skeptic blogs, as well as climate-change discussions in a range of media (e.g. blog, podcast, social media). Particular focus will be given on how to vary presentation styles as a function of the audience.

