

Glaciology (JAR609G)

READING MATERIAL

Required: **Lecture notes** by Throstur Thorsteinsson (on the course web page).

Additional reading:

- The Physics of Glaciers by Paterson (Pergamon)
Strongly recommended for anyone interested in ice and glaciers.
- Articles, for instance cited in the lecture notes.
- Other books on glaciology ...

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Lectures

- Power point presentations and Black (white) board notes.
 - I do not post the slides on the web; except for figures I would like you to have. The lecture notes cover the same material, and you are encouraged to take notes in class.

Problem sets

- Done in-class on Thursdays (most often).
 - Generally they will be at the end of that weeks lecture notes, or handed out at the beginning of class, and you will solve them in small groups in class.
 - If we will not finish the problem set in class and it will be assigned as homework to be handed in the following Monday the latest.
 - If you are unable to attend problem session, hand in the problems (Þróstur has a box in Askja) by Monday (see above).
 - Students must attend (or hand in) at least 90% of the problems. If handed in later the grade goes down 10% for each day.

Project: News related to snow, ice, glaciers, climate and similar.

- Sign up for GlacClass at Google Groups (form on the Glaciology page).
- Groups post, and discuss, recent news every week (4 news items total per week).

Project: Teach your fellow students about a topic

- Select a topic
 - Find *at least* 5 references, one of which at least that is less than 2 years old.
- Write a *hand out* for the class
 - Hand in a week before presentation for distribution to the class (pdf)
 - To the instructor hand in both your *hand out*, as well as copies (paper or electronic) of the references (articles) used.
 - If handed in later the grade goes down 10% for each day.
- *Presentation* will be in class. You will have one class period to work with.
 - Work in groups (number depends on the total number of students).

Exams

- *Mid-term*
 - o Helps you see where you stand.
 - o Please note that if you are scoring badly here (say below 6.0) you need to re-examine your approach to the class.
- *Final exam*, all the material of the semester.
 - o If you are unhappy with the results of the final exam, you have a chance to look at your solutions. If you like to re-take the exam, the student registrar office has forms and ways of organizing make-up exams.
 - o It is not possible to do projects after the final to “correct” the grade.

FIELD TRIP

- There will be a field trip at the ***end of the semester*** (after finals).
- Only those who take the Final-Exam can go.
- No guests or relatives can join the trip.
- Everyone has to pay for food and accommodations, other expenses covered by the University.

If it is absolutely impossible for you to make the trip, or if you have special needs, talk to the instructor ***at the beginning of the semester***. If miss the field trip you will loose 2 credits at least.

GRADES

Approximately as follows (reserve the right to change by +/- 5%):

- 20% projects + activity in exercises and class,
- 15% mid-term,
- 65% final exam

You ***must pass the final exam*** for the project, mid-term and activity to count towards the final grade.

ACCESS TO INSTRUCTOR

Office hours between 12 – 13 on Tuesdays and 12:30 – 13:30 on Thursdays; or by appointment, send me mail at: ThrosturTh@hi.is.

CLASS NOTES AND MATERIAL

You can find the handouts and course material at <http://teaching.turdus.net>