

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Godfrey, Ryan](#); [Houser, Jana](#)
Cc: [Dwyer, Rachel](#); [Nathanson, Amy](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)
Subject: Atmospheric Sciences 5450
Date: Monday, April 7, 2025 8:36:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good morning,

On Monday, March 31st, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new course request for Atmospheric Sciences 5450.

The Subcommittee approved the request with the following feedback:

- **Comment:** The Subcommittee notes that there are several prerequisites, although it appears that the information necessary for student success is nicely embedded within the course. If possible, they offer the friendly advice that reconsidering these prerequisites could help increase enrollment by making the course more accessible.
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the department seek concurrence with the College of Engineering, as they offer courses on the fundamentals of radar.
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee notes that the course calendar lists relevant readings that appear to be optional, given that the textbook is recommended. The Subcommittee seeks clarification on whether there are any mandatory readings and requests further details on what students will be expected to engage with outside of class. [Syllabus p. 1, 7]
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee notes that the syllabus mentions two different start times for the course and requests that the incorrect time (12:00 pm) be adjusted to avoid any confusion. [Syllabus p. 3]
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends avoiding any references to remote attendance in the syllabus, particularly since the course is not approved for distance learning. While exceptions can certainly be made, including such references may set a precedent that could lead to attendance complications. [Syllabus pp. 1, 3]
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee notes that there is overlap in the grading scale that they recommend adjusting. For example, an 82.5% could result in either a B- or a B according to the syllabus. Additionally, the syllabus includes a reference to a standard grading scale that they recommend be removed, as the university does not have a standard grading scale. [Syllabus p. 2]
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee notes that there is a reference to “Blackboard” which they recommend updating to “Carmen” for consistency throughout the syllabus. [Syllabus p. 3]
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends incorporating a boilerplate AI statement (such as the one provided on the [Office of Undergraduate Education website](#)) in the syllabus that offers more specific information regarding the use of AI tools in the course. [Syllabus p. 4]
- **Recommendation:** Due to the recent renaming of the Office of Institutional Equity to the

Office of Civil Rights Compliance, the reviewing faculty recommend that the departments update the links in the Title IX and Religious Accommodations statements. [Syllabus pp. 4-5]

- *Recommendation*: The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the most recent version of the university's diversity statement if they wish to keep it in the syllabus. The updated statement can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus p. 5]

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before a course can move forward in the approval process. *Recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught.

I will return Atmospheric Sciences 5450 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee's requests.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Rachel Dwyer (interim faculty Chair of the SBS Subcommittee) or me.

Best,
Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers