Changing Climates @ Colorado State
100 Views of Climate Change

SueEllen Campbell & John Calderazzo
(with support from CMMAP)
first:

Elizabeth Kolbert, *The New Yorker*, 2005

news coverage of 2007 IPCC 4th assessment

Kevin Van Den Broucke, 14, Belgium
UNEP Children’s Art Contest
later:

senior English majors

communication: Babel!

Gustave Dore, “The Confusion of Tongues”
climate change is everybody’s business

we’ll need everybody’s skills & perspectives
(usually alone)
we asked around
brainstormed (with do-ers)
then jumped in (no permission needed)
and found ourselves in an energetic crowd

Lesson 1: IT’S NOT LONELY

Hundreds attend global warming protest . . .

_image originally posted on looku.com. Author unknown._
so we decided to put on a small lecture series, one semester, on campus, faculty teaching faculty
Lesson 2:
ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER

Art by Charlie Sullivan (12), UK, UNEP Children’s Art Contest, 2007
What We All Need to Know
(for whole community)
four days of teach-ins (for whole community)
• 100+ talks
• 100+ speakers
  – 27 departments
  – 8 colleges
  – other campus entities
  – town, state, region, nation

~ 5500 listeners
Lesson 3: IT’S HARD TO STAY FOCUSED & REALISTIC

many new committees
grant opportunities
sustainability, green building, global change
clean energy (extension)
K-12 education, diversity, curriculum infusion
film-making & editing
communication between disciplines . . . to non-specialists . . .
of science in general

stick to our skills / advance climate literacy / avoid overlap
Lesson 4: IT WASN'T EXPENSIVE (no grants needed)
posters
donated time & help
---
encouragement & money from CLA Dean, CMMAP, CSU President, depts., Morgan fund, etc.
---
(room, sound, food, travel, web, buyouts)

Dutch School (Master of the Manna, 15th century) Israelites in the wilderness receiving manna from heaven.
Lesson 5:
IT WASN’T ALL THAT HARD

phone calls to find speakers, book rooms

publicity (in person, university and local channels, contacts, footwork, posters)

(but it did take being organized)
Lesson 6
SOME COACHING HELPS

bright, interested nonspecialists
vocabulary (acronyms, specialized word use)
equations, graphs, charts

especially for public: local, active, hope

bright, hard-working speakers
(not equally easy for all)
http://changingclimates.colostate.edu
100 Views of Climate Change

multidisciplinary: everybody’s business

college-level content

primer-level clarity

videos (long, short; ours, others’)

book notes

article notes and links

website notes and links

courses (syllabi)
Global climate change is everybody’s business. It’s a challenge so daunting and far-reaching, and so prone to misinterpretation, that it needs to be understood and tackled from as many different perspectives as possible. That’s what this website is about.

100 Views of Climate Change takes inspiration from the 19th-century artist Hokusai, who created 100 Views of Mount Fuji, Japan’s most sacred mountain. Though climate change is hard to “see” in the everyday sense, it looms over our lives as much as Fuji looms over the Japanese landscape.

Whether you’re a college teacher, a student, an interested citizen, or a researcher, you’ll find useful materials here in the form of short and long videos, notes about good books and articles, and links to key websites. We offer clear, current, high-quality information about climate-change—on ethics and atmospheric science, economics and agriculture, literature and ecology, policy and refugees, and more.
The Climate Itself

how the climate works / how it changes
what's happening / what may happen
the ghosts of climates past
how we know what we know

Why, and how, is the world's climate changing? How does the climate system work? What's the difference between climate and weather, and why does it matter? What are greenhouse gases and how do they work in the atmosphere? What climate changes can we expect to see in this century (and beyond)? What might these global changes mean in specific places? How has the climate changed in the past, and what can we learn from this history? How do scientists learn or figure out such things? What do they understand best, and where are the biggest remaining uncertainties?

The links here address questions like these through an ever-growing library of resources—short videos, videos of whole courses, blogs, books, articles, art. Know anything else we should add or link to? Please let us know!

Living with Nature

natural ecosystems
agriculture

Climate affects just about everything about how plants and animals grow. Heat, cold, humidity, rain and snowfall, the amounts and timing of all these things: changes in these factors are likely to significantly alter the natural world around us, including both the parts we think of as "nature" (as opposed to human) and the parts were more obviously linked to, such as domestic crops and livestock. Indeed, to divide the other-than-human world into these two categories is to oversimplify the complex ways our human lives are intertwined with all the other kinds of lives around us. Still, we've made this division here just to help with organization. You'll see in these sources, too, how much these issues are intertwined with topics we've listed on the page The Human Face under "impacts on people."
The Human Face

Climate Change is about people every bit as much as it's about carbon dioxide and polar bears. But it's so complicated, so hard to think about!

How have changes in climate already affected us—and exactly whose lives have they most altered? What will future changes bring? How do philosophers, novelists, poets, essayists, and artists explore the impact of climate change on our lives, and what can they offer to help us cope with change and uncertainty? What do we owe to each other, and to future generations? What are some of the challenges in communicating about this complicated and often very emotional topic?

Taking Action

Lessening the impacts of climate change—and adapting to the changes we'll experience—can seem like daunting challenges. But there are lots of things we can do. This page explores some of them—from the actions each of us can take in our daily lives, to policies governments at all levels can invent and enact, to the power of entrepreneurship and greener economic thinking, to innovative ways to save and create healthier energy.

Solving this problem won't be simple: it will take all of us and many new ideas. But if there's one sure way to feel better about the future, it's to join in making it better.
Lesson 7: IT’S BEEN GREAT

we’ve learned a ton—about
  * how the world works
  * our own capabilities
  * how doing something is heartening

we’ve met & worked with great people
  & found ourselves in new places,
  doing cool new things

we’ve been tired but never bored:
  something challenging & fun is always happening

& we seem to be having some effects . . .
CHANGING CLIMATES @
(YOUR CAMPUS)

it won’t be lonely
one thing will lead to another
you’ll have to work to stay focused
it needn’t be expensive
it won’t be all that hard
some coaching is good
you’ll find it very rewarding