UFSP 100 – Freshman Seminar
The Science of Storms, Climate Change, and Environmental Impacts
Fall 2020 – Class # 6000 – Tuesdays 3:00-3:55 PM
Lead instructor: Ross Lazear
rlazear@albany.edu

Office hours:
2:00-3:00 PM, Mon., and Wed.
https://albany.zoom.us/j/620353582

Topics covered:
The atmospheric circulation in a rotating tank
Weather forecasting
Severe weather and storm chasing
Hurricanes
Weather observations and the New York State Mesonet
Climate change
Carbon neutrality and sustainability
Data visualization
Geospatial technology
Conservation biology
Also: Advisement, events on campus, careers, etc.

Course delivery:
This course is fully online, and will use Blackboard to host assignments, quizzes, and lecture recordings. I encourage all students to present during class time, but if you have to miss a class, you can view the recording online through our Blackboard page, which can be found on blackboard.albany.edu. The Zoom link for all classes is: https://albany.zoom.us/j/97744504983.

Objectives:
This course will be an exciting introduction to the various topics studied and taught primarily by the faculty and staff in the Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences. In addition to broad overview lectures on the topics above given by several faculty members in the department, the course will also serve as an opportunity for new students to learn the ropes at UAlbany. We'll also talk about campus resources and advisement, and even devote some time to careers and career planning. If at any time in the semester you have any questions about your experiences at UAlbany, please don't hesitate to ask one of us for help!

Your course grade will come from the following (see below):

Grading:
*** 40% Blackboard Lecture Quizzes: You can drop your single lowest score.
*** 5%: Contribute two questions or within the lecture topics forums (under “Class Discussion”)
*** 55% Three assignments:
   - Photo paper
   - Web scavenger hunt
   - Final paper

Undergraduate academic regulations, and standards of academic integrity:
https://www.albany.edu/undergraduate_bulletin/regulations.html