

“A Three-Year Success Story: AMS Climate Studies for the Diverse Student Population at the University of Hawaii – West Oahu”



UH West O’ahu is located in the City of Kapolei on the island of O’ahu. The average enrollment is about 2,940 students via on-campus and distance learning. The University offers six bachelor’s degree programs in more than 30 areas of study as well as seven certificate programs. Nearly 14% of enrolled students live on the neighbor islands. The average age of students is 27 of which 37.6% report their ethnicity as Asian, 12.4% Caucasian, 30.8% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 15% mixed, 4.2% other.

University Enrollment:

		ASIAN	HAWN	HIS-	AFRI-	AMER		CAUC-	NO
		Sub TOTAL	PAC IS Sub Total	PANIC	CAN	IND /		ASIAN	DATA
Fall 2016	TOTAL				AMER	ALSK	MIXED		
TOTAL	2,939	1,104	905	46	67	11	441	364	1
Men	1,021	332	235	16	35	2	162	128	1
Women	1,904	484	666	30	31	8	277	235	0
No Data	14	6	4	0	1	0	2	1	0

- I learned a good deal of factual material in this course. 35% of respondents agree and 56.7% strongly agree
- I gained a good understanding of concepts/principles in this field. 54% of respondents agree and 33.4% strongly agree

Now that I think about it, this was a really well-structured course. The textbooks really went hand-in-hand with the online websites. Although it was very confusing at first to wrap my head around all of the different websites we had to use, it was really straightforward once I got into the routine. The midterm and final exams were time-consuming but still generally easy to complete (except when the answers were hard to find). I think that this was a really great course, and I hope if I take any more online classes they take advice from Professor Jones!

This course helped me to enhance myself in the personal discipline department. It held me accountable for planning things out, as most online classes you will not be reminded by someone when things are due. However, when I did need help with anything Dr. Jones was always willing to do so. This course does not really relate to my major but it has helped me become a better student none the less.

What do the students say?

Great Course! My understanding and perspectives toward the environment has changed greatly, the valuable concepts and understanding that I learned this semester can easily be utilized to making a difference now.

...now that I think about it this was a pretty great and well-structured course.

At the beginning of the semester, I was fully expecting another nightmare like my previous online class (ICS 101), and since I was having a lot of trouble getting up-and-running, Professor Jones met with me and laid it all out in a simple way that eliminated all of my confusion and made the whole structure much easier to understand.

My overall evaluation of this course is although its challenging, it is a good course.

University of Hawai’i - West O’ahu  
The Western Most 4 Year Institution in the US



Since 1976, the University of Hawai’i - West O’ahu has served the people of Hawai’i and remains a dynamic and diverse place of learning and cultural enrichment. Formerly West O’ahu College, the university has evolved from a two-year baccalaureate institution to a four-year comprehensive University with academic programs that emphasize the exploration of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural studies. Founded in the liberal arts, UH West O’ahu is committed to quality teaching and an environment that fosters life-long learning.



The Data set: 76 University level students enrolled in the first three offerings of a wholly online version of the AMS Undergraduate Studies Climate Course, This course (MET 209), that was funded as part of the AMS Climate Studies Diversity Project. Students in the first three cohorts were primarily first generation college attendees and mirror UHWO’s demographics.

- I expect my grade for the course to be a/an: 18% said a C, 47% said a B, and 28% said an A in reality 35% earned a C, 36% earned a B, and 16% earned an A
- Class assignments provided an effective aid for learning the subject matter. 37.8% of respondents agree and 48.9% strongly agree
- The instructional materials (e.g., texts, handouts, etc.) were relevant to course objectives. 28.3% of respondents agree and 57.2% strongly agree
- The amount of material covered in the course is reasonable. 32.3% of respondents agree and 60.2 % strongly agree
- The instructor presented the course materials in a clear and organized way. 35% of respondents agree and 57.5% strongly agree
- The instructor taught me methods of analysis for this field of study. 28.3% of respondents agree and 50.3% strongly agree

For More Information:



UH West O’ahu is a four-year, comprehensive university with an emphasis on baccalaureate education founded in the liberal arts, service professional, career-related, and applied fields, based on State and regional needs. UH West O’ahu is committed to providing access to residents throughout the State of Hawai’i through its partnerships with the University of Hawai’i community colleges and its delivery of distance education programs.



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