GEOG 803: HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH SEMINAR
Social Impacts of Climate Change
Fall 2023
Tues/Thurs 3:30-4:45pm, Carolina Hall 204

Instructor
Dr. Clark Gray
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Carolina Hall 308
Drop-in Office Hours: Tues 11am-12pm, Thurs 2:30-3:30pm, and by appointment
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Prerequisites: This course is open to all graduate students at UNC who have previous training in geography, environmental studies/sciences, statistics/quantitative methods, population studies/demography, or public health.

Nature and Goals of the Course: This is a project-based course in which we will work together on one or more collectively-defined research projects with the goal of producing the draft of a publishable manuscript. The research topic/s will fall within the general area of the social impact of climate change, but interpreted broadly to encompass various aspects of environmental change and human well-being. We are likely to take advantage of new population-representative data sources on human health and well-being (e.g., IPUMS, DHS, LSMS) as well as new high-resolution environmental data sources on climate and other aspects of environmental change. This practicum will expose students to the entire research process (from defining a question to submitting a manuscript) as well as to working in an interdisciplinary team - increasingly the norm in this area.

Structure of the Course: Class time will be used for group discussions, group work in small teams, and short presentations by students and the instructor. Assignments will be made at the end of each class period.

Grading
- Weekly presentations: Students will take turns making weekly presentations on potential research topics and/or progress on their project (30% of grade).
- Completed project: Overall quality of the project (40% of grade).
- Contribution to project: Students contribution to the project via self-assessment and instructor's observations (30% of grade).

Class Policies: If you need to miss class please let me know ahead of time via email if at all possible.

Tentative Timeline
- Weeks 1-2 (Aug 22-31): Explore project topics. Lecture on data sources.
- Weeks 3-4 (Sept 5-14): Settle on research questions, study designs and teams. Lecture on academic writing and publishing.
- Weeks 5-8 (Sept 19-Oct 12): Data setup, literature review. Lecture on analysis of hierarchical data.
- Weeks 9-12 (Oct 17-Nov 9): Data analysis and writing. Share draft of literature review and preliminary results.
- Weeks 13-16 (Nov 14-Dec 5): More data analysis and writing. Share complete draft for peer feedback. Discuss revision and submission possibilities for the manuscript.