

OLLI at DU Central Syllabus –Fall 2024

Current Developments in Climate Change – What We’re Facing, What We’re Doing, and What Needs to be Done - in Colorado the Country and the World – Guest Speakers Series- Subject Area STEM

Monday Afternoons Online: Eight weeks

Instructor: Jon Young

1. **SUMMARIZE YOUR COURSE**

The class format is presentation with discussion. Members should expect that, through the presented material and their Q&A discussions with these experts, to have a up to date understanding of:

- Problem: What is actually happening and why.
- Impact: The impacts of climate that we are now facing and can expect to face in the future.
- Challenge: The complexity of the challenge (in mitigating the impacts and in adapting to them), and what needs to be done.
- Progress: Some of the key achievements to date, and what’s in progress; in which Colorado, the Country and the World will be impacted,
- Goals: What we still have to do, not only mitigation (decarbonizing the environment), but also in adaptation (resilience).
- Options: Some of the options to know about, their pros and cons.
- Keys to Success: The intersection of climate change science, R&D, politics, and public policy, including a nuanced discussion of key considerations and why / how policy and politics makes a difference.

2. **BRIEF COURSE OUTLINE ORGANIZED BY CLASS SESSION:**

Over the 8 weeks, each of the following topics will be presented by a different researcher or subject matter expert. Members are encouraged to then use Q&A time to explore the topic with the speaker. While the weeks for each topic have not yet been scheduled, members can expect each of the following topics to be covered:

- Carbon Thermostat (what's happening?),
- Fossil Fuels, Climate Change, Biodiversity Loss, Population and the Future of Humanity.
- Wildfires and Air Quality in a Warming World

- Clean Electricity-The Key to Addressing Climate Change: Progress in Colorado and Current Issues
- Why do economists love Carbon Fee and Dividend?
- Colorado's Big Energy (and Water) Pivots
- Climate Change Impact on Politics
- Solar Geoengineering" re the governance challenges associated with geoengineering technologies