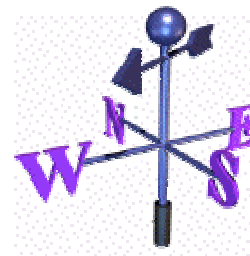# WELCOME TO METEOROLOGY

The Course:

"Everybody talks about the weather but nobody does anything about it"…we will! This course will focus on using hands-on activities and computer resources to examine the weather. We'll begin by making and recording weather observations that will allow us to look for weather trends. Early fall is also a great time to track and discuss hurricanes…will Katia's track bring us more flooding rains? Because weather is often the result of rising and sinking air we'll learn to examine observations from weather balloons. Later in the Fall the forest will provide us with an opportunity to learn about climate change as we gather and examine tree cores. Ever wonder why weather forecasts seem so hard to get right? You'll get a chance to give forecasting a try after learning about forecast models, internet resources, and National Weather Service discussions. And of course we will all look forward to the first snowfall, or will it be freezing rain…maybe sleet? You will learn how a storm's track can be the difference between a cold rain and a snow day. Weather is all around us…all the time, affecting us in both subtle and sometimes tragic ways. By the end of the course you will have a better understanding of why this happens and how it can be predicted.

The Teacher:

Jon Stern   26 years teaching experience and long time resident of New Paltz

New Paltz Central Schools	1997-present
Hyde Park Central Schools	1986-1991 and 1994-1997
Hunter-Tannersville Central Schools	1991-1994
M.S. in Education (Earth Science Conc.)	SUNY at New Paltz, 1992
B.A. in Earth and Space Sciences	SUNY at Stony Brook, 1983

Topics of Study:

Making and Recording Weather Observations	Interpreting Radar and Satellite Images
Air Pressure	Winter Weather
Weather Fronts	Climate Change
Weather Maps	Hurricanes
Vertical Changes in the Atmosphere	Thunderstorms and Tornadoes
Cloud and Precipitation Formation	Weather Analysis
Weather Systems	Weather Forecasting

Grading:

ACTIVITY	POINTS	FREQUENCY
Unit Tests	20-25	3-4/Quarter
Lab Reports	5/single lab 10/double lab	1-2 Labs/Week
Homework	3-5/assignment	Most Nights
Topic Quizzes	5-10	4-6/Quarter
Extra Credit (weather competition, radio station, etc)	Up to 5 pts added to average	

Average Formula:

$$\frac{\text{Points Earned}}{\text{Points Available}} \times 100$$

Extra Help:

Available almost every day after school.

Contact Information:

Voice Mail	256-4175 x69546
Email	jstern@newpaltz.k12.ny.us
Web Site	http://www.newpaltz.k12.ny.us/local/high_school/teachers/jstern/