

ASP 5952: Dynamical Meteorology II
Fall, 2017

Instructor Prof. Zhengyu Liu,
Class Time MWF 10:20-11:15am
Location Lazenby Hall, room 002
Credits 3
Course website
Prerequisites ASP 5951 or consult instructor

Instructor Information:

Prof. Zhengyu Liu
1036 Derby Hall
Phone: 614/292-7948
Email: liu.7022@osu.edu, zliu3@wisc.edu

Text Book

Handout to be downloaded or emailed

Course Description

This course discusses advanced dynamic theories for large-scale atmospheric motion in the framework of quasi-geostrophic dynamics. The course studies the shallow water system in the first half and the stratified flow in the second half. The major concepts to be discussed are: scaling analysis, the shallow water system, vorticity, circulation and potential vorticity, the quasi-geostrophic system, Rossby waves and baroclinic instability.

The course is designed as the last dynamic course for senior undergraduate and graduate students in Geography Department, but also applies to students in other departments interested in theories of rotating fluid dynamics.

The course chapters are as follows:

The sections with “*” are additional materials and will not be discussed in the class.

Part I: Dynamics of Shallow Water System

Chapter 1: Basics (3 weeks)

Sec.1.0: Introduction

Sec.1.1: Basic equations,

Sec.1.2: Conservation laws

Sec.1.3: Circulation, vorticity and Kelvin's Theorem

Sec.1.4: Potential vorticity conservation

Sec.1.5: Shallow water waves on f-plane

*Sec.1.6: Geostrophic adjustment

Chapter 2: Shallow Water Rossby Wave Dynamics (3 weeks)

Sec.2.1: Quasi-geostrophic equation

Sec.2.2: Rossby waves

Sec.2.3: Group velocity and energy propagation

Sec.2.4: Reflection and normal modes

Sec.2.5: Forced waves

*Sec.2.6: Non-plane waves

Chapter 3: Forced Circulation (1 week)

Sec.3.1: Atmospheric circulation

Sec.3.2: Ekman dynamics

*Sec.3.3: Sverdrup flow

*Sec.3.4: Rossby wave and ocean circulation

Part II: Dynamics of Stratified Flow

Chapter 4: Basics of Stratified Fluid (1 weeks)

Sec.4.1: Basic equations

*Sec.4.2: Vorticity equation

*Sec.4.3: Ertel potential vorticity

Chapter 5: Rossby Wave Dynamics (2 weeks)

Sec.5.1: Quasi-geostrophic equation for stratified flow

Sec.5.2: Rossby waves in stratified fluid

Sec.5.3: Vertical normal modes

*Sec.5.4: The Eliassen-Palm theorem

Chapter 6: Instability Theory (2 weeks)

Sec.6.1: Instability problem

Sec.6.2: Baroclinic instability in a two-layer QG model

Sec.6.3: Energetics

*Sec.6.2: Charney-Stearn theorem

*Sec.6.4: The Eady problem.

*Sec.6.6: Barotropic instability

Grading:

40 % homework+quiz, 30% mid-term exam, 30% final exam

References:

1: Pedlosky, J. Geophysical Fluid Dynamics (2nd ed, 1987), *Springer-Verlag*.

2: Gill, A. E., Atmosphere-Ocean Dynamics, 1981, *Academic Press*.

3: Holton, J. R., An Introduction to Dynamic Meteorology (3rd ed), *Academic Press*.