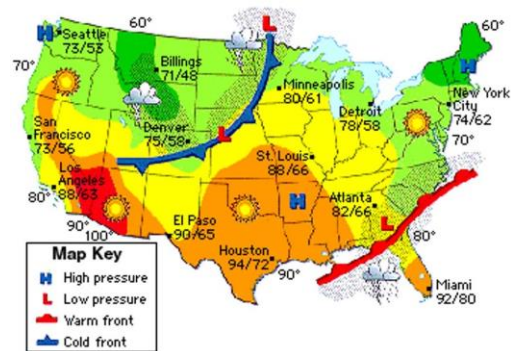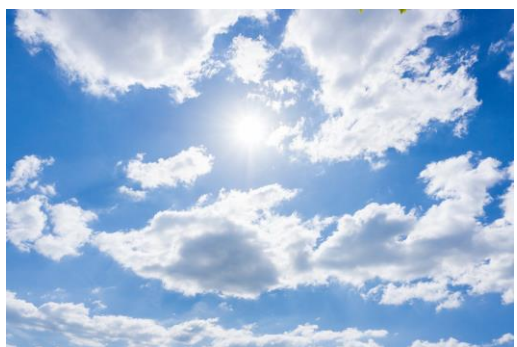# WEATHER 101

WHAT CAN YOU "READ" IN THE SKY?

Learn basic weather reading skills to help the Gardener, Hiker, or outdoor enthusiast. Learn to read weather maps, interpret cloud formations, understand our local climate, and gain practical weather knowledge. Taught by a USDA-Graduate School certified Meteorologist and former NOAA/NWS Portland office forecaster.

Item#xxxxx, **Winter term 2026**, Fee: $125
Date: day (TBA) afternoons (5-sessions); dates <TBA>; 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Where: CTC campus (18700 SE Mill Plain Blvd), *in-person*, Room #338

Instructor: Prof. Kyle Dittmer, office (day/VM): 503-731-1314, kdittmer@clark.edu

TOPICS:
-- Introduction: Overall picture of the atmosphere, Air Masses, energy budget, global heat distribution.
-- Clouds: How do clouds form, types of clouds and their weather significance; Humidity; Precipitation.
-- Atmospheric Motion: Driving/Resisting forces, vertical changes, Cold Fronts, Warm Fronts.
-- Weather Forecasting: How to put together a forecast and evaluate it; Interpreting weather maps.
-- Special Guest Speaker: Station Manager, NOAA/NWS – Portland Office, "NWS 101" talk.
-- Severe Weather: Thunderstorms, Lightning, Tornadoes, Hurricanes, and associated safety measures.
-- Hydrology: water cycle, snowmelt, Water Supply Forecasts, streams, flooding, risk assessment.
-- Climate Science: climatology, climate change and its causes, ENSO (e.g., *El Niño*, *La Niña* events).
-- Practical: Hikers, Travelers, Homeowners, Maritime users, Farmers and Gardeners, weather education.
-- Specialty Topics: per student interest. 😊

FORMAT:
Lecture format, PowerPoint slideshows, and You-Tube videos. In-class work on weather maps will help students apply specific weather concepts. Students are encouraged to share their views and experiences.

Community and Continuing Education classes are Clark College's non-credit course options - they are often connected to academic pathways at Clark College. More about the CCE program: https://www.clark.edu/cce/about-cce/
CCE FAQ: https://www.clark.edu/cce/about-cce/faq.php. Register online or call us at (360) 992-2939.