MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

DEPT. GEOG _____ COURSE NUMBER: _____ 2140 _____

NUMBER OF CREDITS: ___3_____ Lecture: ___3___ Lab: ___0___

Course Title:
Natural Disasters and Meteorology

Catalog Description:
Studies atmospheric processes and the human and economic consequences of natural disasters due to extreme weather events such as tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding, wildfires, and other natural phenomena. Disaster analysis, storm spotter training, and preparedness and mitigation will also be addressed. Prerequisite: STSK 0095 or placement by multiple measures.

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (Leave blank if not applicable)

Goal 10: People and the Environment: _X_ by meeting the following competencies:

2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.

3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.

5. Propose and assess alternative solutions to environmental problems.

6. Articulate and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues.

Prerequisites or Necessary Entry Skills/Knowledge:
STSK 0095 or placement by multiple measures.

Topics to be Covered (General)
Natural Disasters and the Human Population
Fundamental Processes in Meteorology
Insolation, Heat, and Temperature
Air Pressure, Air Masses, and Wind
Moisture and Condensation
Tornadoes and Hurricanes
Flooding and Landslides
Drought and Wildfires
Other Severe Weather
Coastal Processes and Climate Change
Tsunami versus Wind-Caused Waves
Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation
Storm Spotter Training
Hazard City Disaster Analysis

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the role insolation plays in the development of weather systems.
2. Analyze the role of moisture in our atmosphere as it relates to severe weather.
3. Compare and contrast different weather-related phenomena.
4. Identify the processes involved in extreme weather events.
5. Identify global geographic patterns of severe weather and natural disasters.
6. Investigate current natural disasters and the human and economic consequences.
7. Assess how human activities contribute to various natural disasters.
8. Conduct disaster analysis to identify preparedness and mitigation strategies.

Is this course part of a transfer pathway:  Yes ☐ No ☒
*If yes, please list the competencies below

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