

One-Page Essay #1: Enthusiasm or Skepticism about Anthropogenic Global Warming

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As our first written assignment in MET 3103/5105, please write a “one page” (actually about 500 words which will fill about two double-spaced pages) essay that takes one of these two positions:

1. Anthropogenic Global Warming (AGW) is the product of the overheated imaginations of grant hungry academics and people with unsavory political agendas. Convincing physical arguments demonstrate that the observed warming since 1900 is the result of natural processes that have operated throughout geologic time. Strategies to mitigate AGW are both unnecessary and an obstacle to the economic progress that is raising billions of people out of poverty worldwide.
2. Anthropogenic Global Warming (AGW) has a convincing observational, historical and theoretical basis. Despite some exaggerated claims, it is potentially the greatest challenge humanity has faced so far. Observations, physical understanding, and numerical model results, support AGW’s reality. With imagination and foresight we humans can forge a prosperous and sustainable world in which AGW’s threat is much diminished.

Your papers will be due 19 January 2018. You should be aware that your last written assignment in the course will be to take the opposite side of this argument.

Please follow the format of this assignment sheet for your paper, but please double space instead of the 1.5x space used here. This document is about 280 words. Your paper should be about twice as long. You may include one figure if it supports your arguments. A few references following the format below are also OK, but not essential. Please don’t include the text as a reference.

I will set up a Turnitin account for this class. For this assignment, I’m asking you both to give me a hard copy of your paper and to submit to Turnitin, but I’m going to try to transition to grading electronically.

Reference.

Bloom, Arnold, J., 2010: *Global Climate Change*. Sinauer Assoc. Inc., Sunderland, MA, USA, 398 pp.,