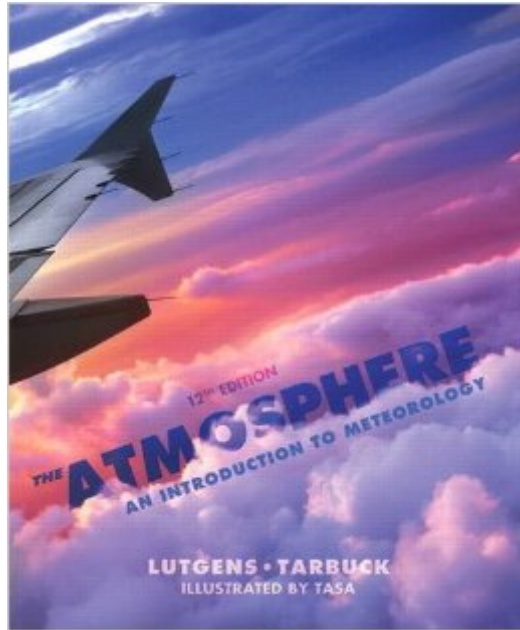


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The Atmosphere: An Introduction To Meteorology (12th Edition)



Synopsis

The Atmosphere: An Introduction to Meteorology remains the standard introduction in its field, reinforcing basic concepts with everyday, easy-to-grasp examples. This revision retains the hallmarks professors have come to expect from Tarbuck and Lutgens: a friendly, largely non-technical narrative, timely coverage of recent atmospheric events, and carefully crafted artwork by leading science illustrator Dennis Tasa. The Twelfth Edition maintains a student-friendly approach while evolving to address various course challenges and trends. New digital visualization and assessment tools are now available on MyMeteorologyLab, a new resource that both encourages student self-study and enables instructors to manage their courses online, with customizable assessments for students. Each chapter in this revision is organized by a new active learning path to help guide and engage non-science majors. A greater focus on popular and increasingly important Severe & Hazardous Weather applications, new critical visual analysis Eye on the Atmosphere features, as well as new discussions of the real-world career opportunities of meteorology with Professional Profile essays, make the science both relevant and exciting.

Book Information

Hardcover: 528 pages

Publisher: Prentice Hall; 12 edition (January 6, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0321756312

ISBN-13: 978-0321756312

Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 0.9 x 11.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars See all reviews (57 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #129,876 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Atmospheric Sciences #90 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Rivers #124 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Climatology

Customer Reviews

Having no college background, but a great interest in the weather, I searched high and low for a comprehensive book that would be understandable and informative. This book greatly increased my knowledge of the weather. It is a quality textbook that covers, in depth, what other books just touch on. High and low pressure systems, fronts, weather systems, trade winds, jet streams, precipitation, clouds, visual effects, measuring devices and much more. I would really love to get the next book

that carries on where this one left off, but to go much farther will probably require more knowledge of math and physics. This book also gave me the desire for further learning. It's almost contagious because the information is so amazingly interesting. I would recommend this book to anyone who truly loves weather study. Completing the questions in each section really helps to hold the information gained.

Lutgens and Tarbuck made this a very readable text by writing in a straightforward manner and by focusing on fundamental principles. The typical non-science major undergrad or general reader should be able to grasp the important concepts, while the more scientifically literate readers will find plenty of material to wrap their minds around. For example, much of the quantitative stuff is presented in separate boxes, for those who want to go beyond the basics as presented in the text. The illustrations by Dennis Tasa are, of course, excellent, as are most of the photos. I used this text for a weather and climate class I taught and would use it again.

I am not qualified to judge the content of this evidently widely-used textbook but it seems carefully written, eg its treatment the relationship between the temperature of a parcel of air and the amount of water vapor it can carry, bearing in mind the cautions on the subject at Penn State University's "Bad Meteorology" web site. It appears to be comprehensive in scope to judge from its Table of Contents, which is comparable to that of other introductory non-technical meteorology texts I have seen. Photographs and drawings are plentiful, clear with respect to content, and beautifully printed. When I say "non-technical" I mean readers looking for even a rudimentary treatment of the math, physics, and chemistry of the atmosphere will be disappointed unless, for example, you consider something like a Fahrenheit/Celsius conversion formula mathematically taxing. This is the technical level intended by the authors and publisher however and not a fault of the book. But if some aspect of meteorology should turn you on when you read about it in "The Atmosphere" expect no help from the text if you want to explore the matter further: bibliography and notes are absent. This may be an artifact of publishing economics or a (bad) judgement about the intellectual curiosity of the average college underclassman rather than an author's omission but it's inexcusable in my view, even for a high school text. It merits a two-star penalty. If you're a non-science major taking an elective meteorology course to round out your degree requirements and this text is on the reading list you could do worse. If you have an active interest in the earth's atmosphere and the study of it, even if you don't have a background in the hard sciences, you should invest in a different text.

I have the tenth edition(2007) but there is no reason to believe any other edition is better. (The authors need a new boat so they publish every 2 years so they can make the students buy a new vs. Used). Weather basic intro material DO NOT change that fast!!!!The text and diagrams don't flow. If you want flip back and forth across multiple pages, then you have found the book for you. There is no good reason for such sloppy and unprofessional production except the consumer has no choice, and the staff at PH have no pride in their work product.

This is the textbook for a course I just took in Junior College (St. Pete, FL). Although I have many other texts and references on Weather on my shelves, The Atmosphere will take the number one spot now. The diagrams and illustrations are very good, and the Appendices are worth the cost of the book alone. Thanks, Bill Bell, St.Pete Florida 7-15-99

This book contains a survey of meteorological concepts with easy to understand explanations. The only mathematical knowledge required is arithmetic, basic algebra, and a little basic trigonometry for a few problems. Most questions and problems require no math at all. It is written at the high school level with numerous illustrations throughout. I don't understand how this could be regarded as a college textbook. The questions and problems at the end of the chapters are mindless and boring; most questions demand only regurgitation of the reading with little thought required. How does this foster comprehension of the subject? The authors and publishers put no effort into producing thought-provoking and interesting exercises to challenge the reader to apply the concepts. The text is annoying to read because it is filled with so many illustrations, pictures, and "boxes." You read a few paragraphs and your attention is constantly diverted to other things on the page. Often you need to flip forward one or more pages to find the figure to which the text is referring. This seems to be the schizophrenic manner in which many textbooks are written these days. I happened to come across an old fourth edition of this book at the library and was amazed how much neater and easier to read it was compared to this newer edition. Authors and publishers really need to resist this temptation to continually add new useless material that only distracts the reader. Keep the text neat and focused and only update the content for accuracy. It is absurd this book is in a twelfth edition. The fundamentals of meteorology have not changed much.

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