



Climate Change: The Science of Global Warming and Our Energy Future

By Edmond Mathez, Jason Smerdon

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Climate Change is geared toward a variety of students and general readers who seek the real science behind global warming. Exquisitely illustrated, the text introduces the basic science underlying both the natural progress of climate change and the effect of human activity on the deteriorating health of our planet. Noted expert and author Edmond A. Mathez synthesizes the work of leading scholars in climatology and related fields, and he concludes with an extensive chapter on energy production, anchoring this volume in economic and technological realities and suggesting ways to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.

Climate Change opens with the climate system fundamentals: the workings of the atmosphere and ocean, their chemical interactions via the carbon cycle, and the scientific framework for understanding climate change. Mathez then brings the climate of the past to bear on our present predicament, highlighting the importance of paleoclimatology in understanding the current climate system. Subsequent chapters explore the changes already occurring around us and their implications for the future. In a special feature, Jason E. Smerdon, associate research scientist at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University, provides an innovative appendix for students.

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Editorial Review

Review

[Mathez's] words make complex concepts like ocean chemistry, the albedo effect, and predictive climate modeling—the language and science of global warming—easily understood. (*Natural History*)

The hot topics of global warming and climate change are expertly covered in this coherent, well-structured volume. (Rita Hoots *NSTA Recommends*)

Mathez has succeeded admirably... [*Climate Change* might well be the best of its kind available at present. (Barry W. Brook *Quarterly Review of Biology*)

About the Author

Edmond A. Mathez is curator in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. He is one of the leading expositors of earth systems science, having co-written *The Earth Machine: The Science of a Dynamic Planet*. He and Michael Oppenheimer developed a major exhibition that opened in October 2008 at the American Museum of Natural History, "Climate Change: The Threat to Life and a New Energy Future," and that is traveling to major cities around the world.

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