

ATM-4010 Forecaster Pre-Instructor Meeting Check List

Past Weather:

- _____ Reviewed climate data for today:
 - Average high, low: _____, _____
 - Record high, low: _____, _____
 - Today's observed high, low, precipitation: _____, _____, _____
 - Noted natural temperature variance (1 SD) high, low: _____, _____
 - NWS daily climate graphs

- _____ If there was recent (yesterday or today) notable weather (records, streaks, big storms), have reviewed storm totals, wind gusts, extreme temperatures, etc.

- _____ Reviewed past radar, satellite, surface, and upper-air observations to note the recent upstream and overhead weather patterns, connecting them to sensible surface weather on synoptic and meso scales

- _____ Reviewed past radar, satellite, surface, and upper-air observations to note the most important atmospheric structures (fronts, troughs, ridges, highs, lows) to monitor presently and for the future

Present Weather:

- _____ Reviewed current weather observations using the forecast funnel approach
 - Satellite:** Note any organized cloud structures
 - Upper-Air:** Note the pattern over North America and regionally
 - Radar:** Note the mode and type of precipitation, its coverage and intensity
 - Surface Data:** Conduct independent analysis of surface data

- _____ Identified the most relevant atmospheric structures (fronts, troughs, ridges, highs, lows), and mentally connect them to ongoing sensible weather (i.e., cloud cover, precipitation)

- _____ Recognizes important evolving patterns, such as potential analogs of major events

- _____ Have thought about the ongoing societal impacts (e.g., travel conditions) of current weather

Future Weather:

- _____ Have developed a short-term forecast based on continuity of current observations

- _____ Have examined the plan-view output (upper air and surface) from the NAM and/or GFS model, and have identified most relevant atmospheric features in model data and examined how they are changing; identified main forecast problem

- _____ Have scratched out your own forecast through the next two to three days, identifying the most important weather threats or forecast problem

- _____ Have examined unique model forecast guidance (e.g., trajectories, soundings, ensembles, HRRR) to focus on the forecast problem

- _____ Have thought about the potential societal impacts of future weather

- _____ Have started thinking through different forecast scenarios

- _____ Reviewed to see if any NWS advisories, watches, or warnings exist, and read in detail

- _____ Have identified a theme for your weather story and the main characters