Are you a weather geek? Are you interested in climate change and how it will affect industry and daily life? Do you enjoy math and science classes? If you answered yes, consider a degree in Meteorology, the science of the atmosphere. Our program, rich in tradition, was the very first meteorology or atmospheric science degree program offered by a public university in Illinois. In addition to an abundance of hands-on learning opportunities commonly associated with a large research university, you’ll find the personal attention typically associated with a small college, and dedicated faculty committed to mentoring and teaching. All core classes are taught by full-time, award-winning faculty. Class sizes in required courses are small; averaging between 15 and 25, while enrollments in electives courses are typically smaller. Our program meets standards established by the American Meteorological Society for an undergraduate degree in atmospheric science and federal civil service requirements for meteorologists. To properly prepare for career opportunities, you’re required to take a series of math and science courses and encouraged to consult regularly with your adviser in our department.

Beyond Forecasting

There’s more to Meteorology than forecasting and broadcasting! Our program provides an educational foundation and experience that will prepare you for public and private sector careers in applied meteorology, environmental meteorology, weather forecasting, and applied climatology, as well as additional graduate education.

Networking with Professionals

The opportunity to network with professionals in the field – many of whom are proud NIU alumni – is a hallmark of our program. You will connect with them throughout your educational journey, from classroom presentations and research activities to student American Meteorological Society (AMS) meetings.

Every fall, the Department hosts Career Day to allow current students to network with alumni while learning first-hand the career options open to students pursuing a Meteorology degree. Those connections are deepened through internship and research activities.

Contact Information

Victor Gensini
Davis Hall, 219E
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, IL 60115
815-753-0631
vgensini@niu.edu

go.niu.edu/meteorology
Careers In Meteorology

Meteorologists study and predict the weather and climate, which impacts lifestyle and the economy. Even more so today, the career opportunities go beyond the traditional forecasting and broadcasting to atmospheric research and teaching.

Meteorologists add value to the decision-making process in the public and private sector, including:
- Government
- Aviation
- Agriculture
- Financial Services/Insurance
- Energy
- Transportation
- Water Resources
- Sporting/Entertainment venues

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of atmospheric scientists is projected to grow 9 percent through 2024, faster than the average for all occupations. The best job prospects for atmospheric scientists will be in private industry.