

ACTIVITY 4

Assignment

Hi Global Changers,

As mentioned at the very end of class as people were leaving, there is a homework assignment for you to complete and bring to class on Thursday.

1. Go to the following web page (which is also linked in the syllabus readings for this week as "USTemperatureData")

<http://www.co2science.org/scripts/CO2ScienceB2C/data/ushcn/ushcn.jsp>

2. Now, choose any US state from the list whose first letter is the same as the first letter of your last name (if there is no state whose first letter is the same as your last name, then you have the option of choosing the letter earlier or later in the alphabet closest to your name for which there is a state; for example if you last name is Qorikalis, you could choose a state beginning with P or with R)

3. click on the state name you have chosen, which will bring up a new window that allows you to pick climate station, beginning year, ending year, etc for your state

4. under "Station" click the down arrow to the right to open up a list of all the climate stations in your state.

5. choose any one of the stations listed (highlight and click)

6. then click on the "calculate trend" button at the bottom and a temperature graph with data from all years available for that station will be appear (i.e., the full record of data).

7. print the graph, put your name on it, and bring it to class.

If you have questions/problems please send me an e-mail

thanks,

-Steve L-

ps, if you feel particularly frisky, one of the things you will be asked to do with the graph in class is to draw in the trend just for the period from 1930 to present. You can actually generate this on the station page by selecting 1930 as the beginning year and then "calculate trend"

In-class questions

Draw in a best-fit trend-line for the period 1930 to present (this is a bit subjective and based on your eye).

What is the trend from the first year of your record to present? From 1930 to present?

(increasing, constant, decreasing). Are these trends seen in everyone's records?

Can the record of temperatures really be best fit with a straight line? How else might draw a line (or lines) to fit your data?