# Meteorology

Meteorology is the interdisciplinary scientific study of the atmosphere. Studies in the field stretch back millennia, though significant progress in meteorology did not occur until the 18th century. The 19th century saw breakthroughs occur after observing networks developed across several countries. After the development of the computer in the latter half of the 20th century, breakthroughs in weather forecasting were achieved.

## Weather events

Meteorological phenomena are observable weather events which illuminate, and are explained by the science of meteorology. Those events are bound by the variables that exist in Earth's atmosphere; temperature, air pressure, water vapor, and the gradients and interactions of each variable, and how they change in time. Different spatial scales are studied to determine how systems on local, regional, and global levels impact weather and climatology.

Meteorology, climatology, atmospheric physics, and atmospheric chemistry are sub-disciplines of the atmospheric sciences. Meteorology and hydrology compose the interdisciplinary field of hydrometeorology. Interactions between Earth's atmosphere and the oceans are part of coupled ocean-atmosphere studies. Meteorology has application in many diverse fields such as the military, energy production, transport, agriculture and construction.

## Origin of the word meteorology

The word "meteorology" is from Greek μετέωρος metéōros "lofty; high (in the sky)" (from μετα- meta- "above" and ἐωρ eōr "to lift up") and -λογία -logia "-(o)logy".

Some meteorological phenomena are connected to holy days, that is to say, saints’ feast days. For example, a number of catholic saints are called the Ice Saints or Frost Saints, because their name days occur in the period between May 11th and 15th. According to popular meteorological beliefs, these are the last days of the year (i.e., in spring) on which night-frost can occur. A somewhat sloppy interpretation of this belief has led people to think that the days of the Ice Saints present a bigger chance of having night-frost, but that isn’t true.

These are the saints that are called the Ice Saints or Frost Saints:

Mamertus (May 11)

Pancratius (May 12)

Servatius of Maastricht (May 13)

Boniface of Tarsus (May 14)

Sophia of Rome (May 15)

Source: Wikipedia, www.wikipedia.org