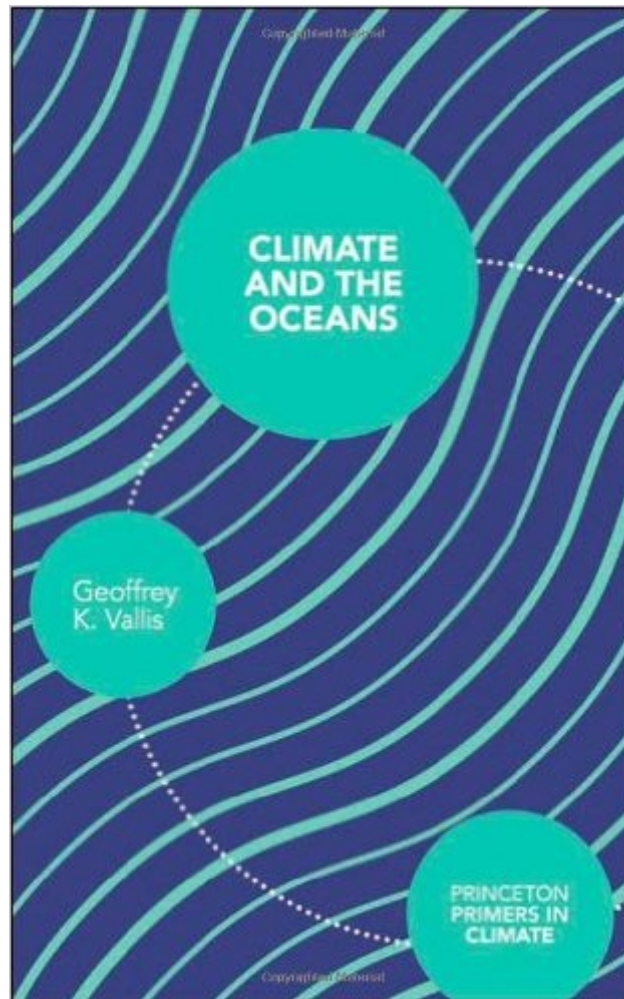


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Climate And The Oceans (Princeton Primers In Climate)



Synopsis

The oceans exert a vital moderating influence on the Earth's climate system. They provide inertia to the global climate, essentially acting as the pacemaker of climate variability and change, and they provide heat to high latitudes, keeping them habitable. *Climate and the Oceans* offers a short, self-contained introduction to the subject. This illustrated primer begins by briefly describing the world's climate system and ocean circulation and goes on to explain the important ways that the oceans influence climate. Topics covered include the oceans' effects on the seasons, heat transport between equator and pole, climate variability, and global warming. The book also features a glossary of terms, suggestions for further reading, and easy-to-follow mathematical treatments. *Climate and the Oceans* is the first place to turn to get the essential facts about this crucial aspect of the Earth's climate system. Ideal for students and nonspecialists alike, this primer offers the most concise and up-to-date overview of the subject available. The best primer on the oceans and climate. Succinct and self-contained. Accessible to students and nonspecialists. Serves as a bridge to more advanced material.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I have learned a lot reading that book and especially I liked the descriptive part of complicated phenomena that are usually represented with complicated maths and physics. Vallis has written a complex and comprehensive books full of equations and now he has translated those equations in words. I am reading that book to be prepared for an interview to a job of Prof of oceanography and it

may do the job better than the complex books that are difficult to assimilate. I will buy a dozen for my next Master class if I get the job.

On the plus side, this book provides a clear picture of overall ocean circulation, the role of the heat capacity of the ocean, and the El Nino phenomenon, and is worth having as resource on the basics of these phenomena. On the negative side, the treatment of the physics of the Coriolis force is not thorough or detailed enough to be completely clear, although its general effect is covered. More importantly, the section on global warming is based on modeling results, but the uncertainties in this approach are not acknowledged. I have learned through experience with modeling physical systems that outcomes are critically dependent on the boundary (or starting) conditions and the simplifications made in constructing the model. If El Nino events can't be predictively modeled, what level of confidence should be placed in the long term climate models?

Great introduction to the interaction between the climate and oceans. Explains ocean circulation in a manner that a lay person will understand, with the supporting physics. Anyone interested in the impact of global warming on the ocean and climate would benefit from the foundation this book provides.

A GREAT place to start for students or the layman to advance their knowledge of how climate and the ocean interact.

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