



Weather, climate and our own cycles. Teaching Meteorology to senior students.

J. Hidalgo, R. Nieto, J.A. Añel and L. Gimeno

Universidad de Vigo, Dpto Física Aplicada, Facultad de Ciencias de Ourense, Ourense, Spain.

The Senior Learning program at the Vigo University provides lifelong learning to people age from 50 at three different university campuses. The programs involve are designed for enjoyment, intellectual stimulation, and active discussion of the matters providing quality learning experiences for its members.

Since its inception in 2002, the Vigo University has invited all persons 50 and over to participate in its courses and special events. The response has been positive and membership continues to grow.

The academic program is organized in three school-years (540h). Topics cover many fields of study combining subjects from Sciences to Arts. Classes are typically offered once-a-week in a fifteen week sessions and are usually two hour in length. 'Fundamentals of Meteorology' is a last year subject centred on Weather and Climate basis.

The Weather and the Climate perception varies with age. The interest in the meteorology of a child is practically centred on the perceptible sensible weather and this perception varies when the student becomes adolescent, adult and senior. This must be reflected in the course program and the teaching methodology. This evolution through the ages is analysed and commented basing on this own cycle of perception.

Keywords: senior students, lifelong learning, University of Vigo