

The characteristics that frame climate change science

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Abstract

The study of anthropogenic climate change presents a range of fundamental challenges for scientific and wider academic inquiry. The essential nature of these challenges are often not well appreciated. At first sight many appear to already be the subject of widespread investigation and sometimes solutions are mistakenly believed to exist in conventional approaches. The context of anthropogenic climate change, however, transforms issues that in different situations are soluble into ones with deep conceptual challenges. In this presentation I will introduce the key characteristics of climate change which provide the context for its study in scientific and other academic disciplines.