



**Scripps Institution of Oceanography**  
**University of California, San Diego**

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Joel Norris is an associate professor of atmospheric and climate sciences at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego. He is a member of the Climate Research Division and the Center for Atmospheric Sciences.

Norris studies the role of cloudiness in climate, which is widely acknowledged to be one of the greatest uncertainties in our current understanding of climate change and projected future global warming. He is particularly interested in determining how changes in atmospheric circulation, temperature, and anthropogenic aerosol particles affect cloud properties on time scales from days to decades. His research tools are surface and satellite cloud and meteorological observations and computer simulations made by global climate models. More recently, Norris has been investigating how the frequency of temperature inversions and air pollution episodes over California may change in the future as a result of global warming.

Norris advises several Ph.D. students and teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in atmospheric dynamics, weather, physical climate, and other meteorological topics. He also recently served as lead instructor for the “Living Oceans and Global Climate Change” cluster of the UCSD California State Summer School for Mathematics and Science (COSMOS), an outreach program to high school students.

Norris joined Scripps in September 2000. Previously he was a postdoctoral fellow at the National Center for Atmospheric Research and a visiting scientist at the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory at Princeton University.

Norris was born in 1967 in Covina, CA. He received a BSc (1990) in geophysics from the California Institute of Technology and worked for a year at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. In 1997, he received a PhD in atmospheric science from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Norris is a member of the American Meteorological Society and the American Geophysical Union. He has published more than twenty papers in highly-regarded journals.

Norris and his family reside in the University City neighborhood of San Diego.

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