Appendix 1: GCC and demographic questions

GCC questions:

1. Global climate change, also called global warming, refers to the idea that the world’s average temperature has been increasing over the past 150 years, may be increasing more in the future, and that the world’s climate may change as a result. What do you think? Do you think that global climate change is happening?
   a) Yes
   b) No
   c) Don't know

2. How sure are you that global climate change is or is not occurring, given your previous answer?
   a) Extremely sure
   b) Very sure
   c) Somewhat sure
   d) Not at all sure

3. How well do you feel you understand the issue of global climate change?
   a) Very well
   b) Fairly well
   c) Not very well
   d) Not at all

4. Assuming global climate change is occurring, do you think it is:
   a) Caused mostly by human activities
   b) Caused mostly by natural changes in the environment
   c) None of the above because global climate change isn't happening
   d) Caused by both human activities and natural changes in the environment

5. Which comes closer to your own view?
   a) Most scientists think global climate change is happening.
   b) Most scientists think global climate change is not happening
   c) There is a lot of disagreement among scientists about whether or not global climate change is happening
   d) Don't know enough to say

6. How worried are you about global climate change?
   a) Very worried
   b) Somewhat worried
   c) Not very worried
   d) Not at all worried
7. How much do you think global climate change will harm you personally?
   a) A great deal
   b) A moderate amount
   c) Only a little
   d) Not at all
   e) Don't know

8. How much do you think global climate change will harm your family?
   a) A great deal
   b) A moderate amount
   c) Only a little
   d) Not at all
   e) Don't know

9. How much do you think global climate change will harm people in your community?
   a) A great deal
   b) A moderate amount
   c) Only a little
   d) Not at all
   e) Don't know

10. How much do you think global climate change will harm people in the United States?
    a) A great deal
    b) A moderate amount
    c) Only a little
    d) Not at all
    e) Don't know

11. How much do you think global climate change will harm people in other modern industrialized countries?
    a) A great deal
    b) A moderate amount
    c) Only a little
    d) Not at all
    e) Don't know

12. How much do you think global climate change will harm people in developing countries?
    a) A great deal
    b) A moderate amount
    c) Only a little
    d) Not at all
    e) Don't know
13. How much do you think global climate change will harm future generations of people?
   a) A great deal
   b) A moderate amount
   c) Only a little
   d) Not at all
   e) Don't know

14. How much do you think global climate change will harm plant and animal species?
   a) A great deal
   b) A moderate amount
   c) Only a little
   d) Not at all
   e) Don't know

15. When do you think global climate change will start to harm people in the United States?
   a) They are being harmed now
   b) In 10 years
   c) In 25 years
   d) In 50 years
   e) In 100 years
   f) Never

16. When do you think global climate change will start to harm other people around the world?
   a) They are being harmed now
   b) In 10 years
   c) In 25 years
   d) In 50 years
   e) In 100 years
   f) Never

17. How much had you thought about global climate change before today?
   a) A lot
   b) Some
   c) A little
   d) Not at all

18. Over the past year or two, have you changed your opinion about global climate change?
   a) Yes
   b) No
19. How much do you trust or distrust television weather reporters as a source of information about global climate change?
   a) Strongly trust 
   b) Somewhat trust 
   c) Somewhat distrust 
   d) Strongly distrust 

20. How much do you trust or distrust the mainstream news media as a source of information about global climate change?
   a) Strongly trust 
   b) Somewhat trust 
   c) Somewhat distrust 
   d) Strongly distrust 

21. How much do you trust or distrust climate scientists as a source of information about global climate change?
   a) Strongly trust 
   b) Somewhat trust 
   c) Somewhat distrust 
   d) Strongly distrust 

22. How much do you trust or distrust other kinds of scientists as a source of information about global climate change?
   a) Strongly trust 
   b) Somewhat trust 
   c) Somewhat distrust 
   d) Strongly distrust 

23. How much do you trust or distrust President Obama as a source of information about global climate change?
   a) Strongly trust 
   b) Somewhat trust 
   c) Somewhat distrust 
   d) Strongly distrust 

24. How much do you trust or distrust Mitt Romney as a source of information about global climate change?
   a) Strongly trust 
   b) Somewhat trust 
   c) Somewhat distrust 
   d) Strongly distrust
25. How important is the issue of global climate change to you personally?
   a) Extremely important
   b) Very important
   c) Somewhat important
   d) Not too important
   e) Not at all important

Demographic questions:

1. Are you male or female?
   a) Male
   b) Female

2. What is your current age?

3. Which of the following best describes you:
   a) American Indian/Native American
   b) Asian
   c) Black/African American
   d) Hispanic/Latino
   e) Caucasian
   f) Non-caucasian white
   g) Pacific Islander
   h) Other

4. If you are from the United States, which state or territory are you from? If not, what country are you from?

5. Which term best describes where you grew up?
   a) Urban
   b) Suburban
   c) Rural

6. Growing up, how often were you exposed to science outside of school (e.g., by visiting museums, science centers, etc.)?
   a) Very often
   b) Somewhat often
   c) Somewhat rarely
   d) Rarely
   e) Almost never
7. What is your mother's highest level of education?
   a) Never attended school or only attended kindergarten
   b) Grades 1 through 8 (Elementary)
   c) Grades 9 through 11 (Some high school)
   d) Grade 12 or GED (High school graduate)
   e) College 1 year to 3 years (some college or technical school)
   f) College 4 years (College graduate)
   g) Graduate school (Graduate Degree)
   h) Does not apply

8. What is your father's highest level of education?
   a) Never attended school or only attended kindergarten
   b) Grades 1 through 8 (Elementary)
   c) Grades 9 through 11 (Some high school)
   d) Grade 12 or GED (High school graduate)
   e) College 1 year to 3 years (some college or technical school)
   f) College 4 years (College graduate)
   g) Graduate school (Graduate Degree)
   h) Does not apply

9. What, if any, is your religious affiliation?
   a) Protestant Christian
   b) Evangelical Christian
   c) Catholic Christian
   d) Muslim
   e) Jewish
   f) Hindu
   g) Buddhist
   h) Other ____________ (Write-in response)
   i) No Preference/No religious affiliation

10. If applicable, what is your religious denomination?
    a) ______________ (Write-in response)
    b) Does not apply

11. How active do you consider yourself to be in the practice of your religious preference?
    a) Very active
    b) Somewhat active
    c) Not very active
    d) Not active
    e) Does not apply
12. In general, how would you describe your political views?
   a) Strongly liberal
   b) Somewhat liberal
   c) Somewhat conservative
   d) Strongly conservative

13. Politically, what are your views on most social issues (e.g., immigration, capital punishment, or marriage equality)
   a) Strongly liberal
   b) Somewhat liberal
   c) Somewhat conservative
   d) Strongly conservative

14. Politically, what are your views on most fiscal issues (e.g., government spending, trade regulation, or economic regulation)
   a) Strongly liberal
   b) Somewhat liberal
   c) Somewhat conservative
   d) Strongly conservative

15. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be a(n):
   a) Strong Democrat
   b) Not so strong Democrat
   c) Independent-leaning Democrat
   d) Independent
   e) Independent-leaning Republican
   f) Strong Republican
   g) Other ______________ (Write-in response)
   h) Don't know

(GCC questions compiled from Borick & Rabe, 2012; Hamilton, 2011; Hamilton & Keim, 2009; Leiserowitz et al., 2012; Nisbet & Myers, 2007. The term “global warming” has been changed to “global climate change.” Many scientists prefer the term global climate change because though global warming correctly references rising average global temperature, it can be misleading for individuals in those geographic areas predicted by climate models to experience decreasing temperatures, changes in precipitation without changing temperature, etc. Further, many problems accompany rising temperature as part of climate change including receding sea ice and frequent intense weather events. Demographic questions are of our own design.)