



Earth Science CP Syllabus

Course Details

Course Code: 326500CW

Subject: Science

Required Prerequisites: None

Suggested Prerequisites: None

Recommended Grade Levels: 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Duration: Semester

Course Availability: A listing of when this course is offered in the current school year can be found on the [VirtualSC Current Course Offerings page \(opens in a new window\)](#).

Class Times: This course has scheduled instructional meetings. Information on scheduled meetings for each course is communicated by the teacher. Recordings of these meetings will be available for students unable to attend. Students should expect to spend 7-9 hours a week working on this course independently, in addition to any live meetings, and are expected to meet the deadlines posted in the course pacing guide.

Textbook: All course materials are included in the course and no outside textbook is required.

Outside Websites: A list of links to websites and online textbooks used in this course can be found here: [VirtualSC Course Links Document Folder \(opens in a new window\)](#). Students will need to be able to access all these links to view all course materials.

Final Exam: Students in this course take a VirtualSC final exam. Details on scheduling and taking final exams can be found on the [Final Exam Page \(opens in a new window\)](#) of the VirtualSC webpage.

Course Description

The Earth is our home, but what do we really know about it? This course combines critical thinking and problem-solving skills to explore concepts basic to the Earth and characteristics of the solar system. In this course, you'll explore Earth's history through

the study of energy flow, weathering and erosion, the rock cycle, and plate movements. You will apply your understanding of the three states of matter to the spheres on Earth. You will develop your understanding of Earth and its place in the universe. You'll also discover what determines the weather, climate, and movement of ocean currents on Earth. You will look at climate change and human impact on Earth's atmosphere. You will also analyze techniques scientists use to generate knowledge about them throughout the entire course.

The curriculum used in this course is guided by the [South Carolina College and Career-Ready Science Standards 2021 \(opens in a new window\)](#).

Scope and Sequence

- Unit 00: Course Overview and Introduction
- Unit 01: Discovering New Worlds – How the Sun Works
- Unit 02: Discovering New Worlds – Origin of the Universe and Star Life Cycles
- Unit 03: Discovering New Worlds – Planets and Orbits
- Unit 04: Earth Systems – Geologic History
- Unit 05: Earth Systems – Plate Tectonics
- Unit 06: Earth Systems: Earth's Interior and Geologic Activity
- Unit 07: System Interactions – Earth Systems Overview
- Unit 08: System Interactions – Weather & Climate
- Unit 09: Sustainability – Natural Resources
- Unit 10: Sustainability – Human Actions
- Final Exam

Students will be sent a full list of assignments and their due dates at the beginning of the course.

Current pacing guides for this course can be found on the [Current Course Offerings page \(opens in a new window\)](#) on the VirtualSC website.

Course Grades

The final grade in this course results from the following:

- Coursework: 80%
- Final Project: 10%
- Final Exam: 10%

Each unit in this course counts 10% towards your coursework grade.

VirtualSC Details

Information on VirtualSC student guidelines, policies and technology requirements can be found in the [VirtualSC Student Support Portal \(opens in a new window\)](#).