

Syllabus

To-Do Date: Aug 29 at 11:59pm

Review the course syllabus below. When you've read it, click **Mark as done** at the bottom.



Earth & Environmental Syllabus

Cabarrus Virtual Academy

Fall 2022

Mrs. Meredith Currie

Course Description

Welcome to Earth & Environmental Science. This semester, we will be learning all about the four "spheres of Earth" along with some exploration into space and the galaxy in which we live as well. We will focus on the interconnectedness of the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and the biosphere. There will also be a large focus on how human interaction with each of these spheres impacts the future of our planet. This is an important course that will teach you the why's and how's of things that are going on in the natural world all around you. What you learn in this course should also help you to become more aware of how the world around you is impacted (positively and/or negatively) by our actions as a whole.

I am here to help you succeed and I am looking forward to a fun semester. If you have any questions feel free to ask or email. I am excited to be teaching you and expect a great semester.

Learning Goals for Earth & Environmental Science

- Explore the four spheres of Earth (atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, biosphere), and analyze how the spheres interact with one another.
- Analyze Earth in regards to its role within our galaxy.
- Study how human interactions within each sphere (atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere) impact Earth currently and in the future.

About your instructor:

My name is Meredith Currie and I am currently in my 6th year as a science educator. My interest in science and how the natural world around me worked was sparked at a very young age. Growing up, I spent a lot of time in the woods hunting and fishing with my father, I was always asking him questions and wondering about the how's and why's behind everything in nature. My curiosity only increased with age, and I grew to love science because it was a field that not only helped to answer all of my questions, but it showed me how to experiment and solve real world problems that I had always been interested in on my own. I hope this course sparks your curiosity about the natural world around, and encourages you to ask questions/solve problems in the same way that it did for me.





Email : meredith.currie@cabarrus.k12.nc.us
(<mailto:meredith.currie@cabarrus.k12.nc.us>)

Live Meetings and Drop-In Sessions:

Live meetings: Tuesdays @ 3 pm (Click [HERE](#)
(https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3amx8UvyhrwqOkrelr_KrdYq_qUdf2vosNzoX2c-3M_IA1%40thread.tacv2/1661441101741?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22178c106c-10fc-4324-b3d3-e64981c95ca9%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b410bac7-3358-443b-9f77-5b1c73e66c1e%22%7d) to access meeting)

Drop-in sessions: Mondays @ 9am (Click [HERE](#)
(https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3amx8UvyhrwqOkrelr_KrdYq_qUdf2vosNzoX2c-3M_IA1%40thread.tacv2/1661440467278?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22178c106c-10fc-4324-b3d3-e64981c95ca9%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b410bac7-3358-443b-9f77-5b1c73e66c1e%22%7d) to access meeting)

Wednesdays @ 12 pm (Click [HERE](#)
(https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3amx8UvyhrwqOkrelr_KrdYq_qUdf2vosNzoX2c-3M_IA1%40thread.tacv2/1661441019173?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22178c106c-10fc-4324-b3d3-e64981c95ca9%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b410bac7-3358-443b-9f77-5b1c73e66c1e%22%7d) to access meeting)

Course Design and Learning:

Students' learning in Earth & Environmental Science will be primarily self-paced work in Canvas that they can complete on their own daily schedule within the week. Due dates will pace student learning.

Students assignments will be sequential, and students will move on to the next assignment after completing their current task.

Some tasks, **mastery assignments**, will require students to score a passing grade before moving on. Mastery assignments mean that students will only be able to complete a certain amount of work before a teacher checks their progress. All student work will be reviewed and graded by the next school day.

To support student learning in Canvas

- Students can attend **live meetings** to interact and collaborate with their classmates and teacher live. In live meetings teachers will introduce big ideas, concepts and topics for the week, practice or explain new skills and provide advice for the week's work. Students will share and get ideas that will help them complete that week's work. Live meetings will be recorded and available on Teams.
- Students can attend a teacher's **drop-in** sessions for individualized help with coursework and assignments.
- Students can meet with teachers in person on Thursdays at Cabarrus Virtual Academy. They can also work independently or collaboratively with other students in the building that day.
- Students can schedule an individual meeting with their teacher by emailing them.

Attendance

Student attendance for Cabarrus Virtual Academy will be taken daily, **NOT** by individual classes. Each day students will submit attendance on the front page of any **one** of their classes, whether they have a live session or not to be counted present. **Attendance form must be submitted by 1:00 pm to be counted**

present. If for some reason a correction needs to be made to your attendance, you must send an email to kelley.poulos@cabarrus.k12.nc.us (<mailto:kelley.poulos@cabarrus.k12.nc.us>) by noon the following day. The email should have "attendance correction" in the subject line. You must include a screenshot in your email showing that you had been working before 1 pm. that previous day. All directions must be followed in order for attendance to be corrected.

Course Outline

Unit/Module	Schedule
Intro to Earth Science	1-2 Days
Unit 1 :Science Skills	1-1.5 Weeks
Unit 2 : Space & Human Interaction	2 Weeks
Unit 3 : Atmosphere & Human Interaction	3 Weeks
Unit 4 : Hydrosphere & Human Impact	2-3 Weeks
Unit 5 : Lithosphere & Human Impact	2-3 Weeks
Unit 6 : Biosphere & Human Impact	2 -3 Weeks

Course Grading

Earth & Environmental Science grading will be semester long.

Your 3rd quarter grade will be 37.5% and your 4th quarter grade will be 37.5%.

Your final exam will be 25% of your final and it will be taken within Canvas.

Category Percentages within PowerSchool:

Major Assessments: 40% of grade

Minor Assessments : 30% of grade

Learning Tasks : 30% of grade

Assignments

In Canvas you will complete the following types of tasks:

<p>Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In an online discussion, everyone participates and gets to share their analysis, ideas, or answer. Most discussions are designed where you must post your answer before viewing other students' discussions. • Discussions also allow for threaded replies, or students and teachers responding to the original post or another comment. • Tasks that are discussions are graded with a rubric just like any other assignment • Discussions need to be posted to move on to the next task, but don't forget to post replies if they are required. • Discussions cannot be resubmitted for a grade and submitting blank posts may fall under the academic integrity policy.
<p>Quiz</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A quiz assignment on Canvas is not always an actual "quiz," it may just be a regular learning task, or it could be an assessment. It might include matching, multiple choice, short answer or fill in the blank questions. • Quizzes often are graded immediately when submitted, but if there is a short answer question(s) that has to be graded and

	<p>added in later.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may have the opportunity to re-do quizzes that will be explained on the first page, along with any time limits and how the grade is determined.
Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online assignments always have both the resources needed for the assignment and the explanations listed, explained, and maybe linked. Assignments allow students the opportunity to resubmit for a higher grade, and some assignments students must score a 60% or better to move on. Each assignment includes the rubric that the assignment will be graded with. Assignments may require different types of submissions or allow students the choice of submission type.

General Expectations

- You will have approximately an 1 hour to 1.5 hours of work in Earth Science each day. You can spend more time some days than others, but to be successful in this course you should expect at least five hours of school work a week.
- Each module you will be introduced to the goals and objectives in that module. All tasks and assessments are directly related to those objectives.
- All activities and assessments (in class or Canvas) are designed to provide feedback to you and your teacher on your progress, You will use grades, comments, and rubrics from your teacher, and any feedback from peers to refine your skills.
- For all submitted assignments on Canvas and some quizzes (**not discussion posts**) students can resubmit assignments after receiving feedback, as long as its before the due date.
- Each week students will receive an announcement that includes that week's scheduled work and the suggested pace, explanation of big ideas, concepts and topics for the week and relevant advice for the weeks work

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- It is expected that all work submitted is your original work, with your own authentic thoughts and ideas. Your learning throughout this course will occur through the tasks and assignments that you complete. To ensure that the assignments you submit are your own original work, we will be utilizing the Turnitin feature. All submitted assignments will be scanned by the Turnitin app to prevent plagiarism.

Class Policies

- Be proactive! Stay on top of your daily classwork, and be proactive in reaching out to me when you have questions.
- While this class is self-paced, you need to do your best to follow the recommended pacing to ensure that you have time to complete all course tasks within the allotted course timeframe.
- Remember to always use appropriate netiquette. There are real humans (with real human feelings) behind every screen and virtual discussion response.
- Being inactive for 5 days or more will result in an email and/or phone call home. Please make sure to consistently work on your tasks each week.
- Always keep an eye on due dates and your grade in PowerSchool. Powerschool will be your most accurate grade for the course and will be updated weekly. Course tasks will be graded daily within canvas.

Strategies for success in Earth & Environmental Science

1. Try to stick to the suggested pacing and due dates for the course. This will ensure you don't get behind, and will have ample time to ask questions and perform well on learnings tasks. We don't want you getting to the end of the semester and trying to rush to complete tasks.
2. Join the lives! If you are unable to join the live sessions then do your best to find the time to watch the recorded live sessions that will be posted to the course.

3. Proactively communicate with me. If you have questions reach out to me via. email and/or hop on during the drop in times scheduled throughout the week to get clarity on certain topics or tasks that you may be struggling with. If the scheduled drop in times do not work for you, then reach out to me via. email and we can schedule a time that does work for you. Communication is key!
4. Use an agenda and schedule out your learning for the week. Staying organized will be essential for success in this course.

Netiquette

Netiquette is the etiquette, or proper way of acting and interacting online and especially in an online course. Interactions online are in some ways easier than in person, but in some ways more challenging. Review the following "rules," adapted from Virginia Shea's [The Core Rules of Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html) (<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>), when interacting in your online course.

- **Rule 1: Remember the Human:** Its easy to forget online that you are interacting with real people. Remember on the other side of the screen are human beings: both your teachers and classmates.
- **Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life:** The way you communicate and act online should be the same as you would in person.
- **Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace:** Think about the circumstances you are in when operating online. Texting your friends is different than emailing the principal. Commenting on a classmate's discussion is different from writing a journal. Communicate and act appropriately for each circumstance.
- **Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth:** Online communication is easily accessible and convenient, but make sure your communication is purposeful, appropriate and gets to the point. Also remember that staff may not be available after hours and you may need to wait till tomorrow for an answer.

- **Rule 5: Make yourself look good online:** Online learning takes away physical appearance, but people will evaluate you based on how you communicate and portray yourself online. Be pleasant and friendly, use correct grammar and spelling, and be clear in what you say. Take a minute to review and reflect on what you are going to post or send.
- **Rule 6: Share expert knowledge:** Online learning allows everyone to get a word in, to respond to a teacher's question and to share each person's unique perspective and expertise. Share your knowledge and experience.
- **Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control:** Online communication, especially through social media can inflame emotions and become heated quickly. Passion and emotion may be a part of a conversation, but avoid derailing a conversation or hurting the community by deliberately posting or saying inflammatory things.
- **Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy:** Sometimes private or personal things may get shared. Respect your classmates' privacy as you would like them to do for you.
- **Rule 9: Don't abuse your power:** Some people have more power, expertise or skill online. Don't abuse that power.
- **Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes:** People have different levels of comfort and skill online, just like in a regular classroom. And people make mistakes and forget the rules sometimes. Do your best and be forgiving of other people's mistakes.

Academic Integrity at CVA

Academic integrity at CVA means that the work you submit is your own words and thinking and that it is an accurate reflection of your learning, understanding or skills.

- All submitted work will be the student's original work - copying, sharing or collaborating on work intended to be individual tasks is a violation of CVA Academic integrity policy

- Students' work will demonstrate their own learning and thinking.
- Plagiarism: taking ideas or writings knowingly from another person or source (including the work of other students) and presenting those ideas or writings as one's own original work
- Submitting work that is only or primarily the ideas written by someone else even if cited. Work that is copy and pasted from a website or an exact copy of a source does not demonstrate learning and is a violation of the academic integrity policy.
- Students complete their own work. Students can seek help from classmates or adults completing assignments, but all submitted work must be completed by the students. Family members or other people completing students' work is a violation.
- Students will follow expectations of submitting assignments or assessments in each class. Unauthorized use of electronics or any technology is a violation.

Problems and troubleshooting

If you have problems with the course, a grade, an assignment or Canvas questions contact your instructor by email or for technology specific problems fill out a [Student Help Ticket](https://techhelpccs.incidentiq.com/) - [Instructions](https://www.cabarrus.k12.nc.us/cms/lib/NC01910456/Centricity/Domain/454/Student%20incidentIQ.pdf)

Any changes to this you will be informed of, although I reserve the right to alter or change the syllabus without prior notice.