BOARD OF REGENTS

Governing Iowa's Public Universities

In accordance with Board of Regents policy 3.20, the following required information is available below:

Fall 2026

I. Course title and number as designated in the institutional course catalog

SCI ED 1100 Inquiry into Earth and Space Science, all sections

II. A course description including learning objectives that students are expected to achieve by the end of the course

A. Course Description:

1. Activity-based, inquiry-oriented introduction to fundamental concepts and processes in meteorology, astronomy, and geology. Course instruction is entirely lab based.

B. Course Level Learning Objectives:

1. Accurately describe fundamental concepts and processes in geology, astronomy, and weather & climate and how they interact with each other.
2. Quantitatively and qualitatively describe the Earth's geological, meteorological, and astronomical characteristics, and use this knowledge to make predictions.
3. Describe ways in which humans interact with and impact the Earth's systems.

III. A general outline of the topics to be covered throughout the course:

A. Geology

1. Minerals & Rocks
2. Earthquakes
3. Volcanoes
4. Earth Structure
5. Plate Tectonics
6. Weathering & Erosion
7. Geologic Time
8. Groundwater
9. Streams & Rivers
10. Floods
11. Soils
12. Glaciers

B. Astronomy

1. Models of the Universe
2. Scale Models

3. Solar System
4. Motion the Sun
5. Seasons
6. Lunar Phases
7. Stars, Nebula, & Galaxies

C. Weather & Climate

1. Atmosphere
2. Moisture
3. Air Pressure
4. Winds
5. Air Masses
6. Fronts
7. Severe Weather
8. Climate

IV. List of required textbooks, readings, and other materials necessary for the course

No textbook or other supplies are required.

V. General description of the types of assessments used in the course (e.g., exams, papers, projects, experiential learning):

Assessment will take the form of homework assignments, in-class activities, quizzes, unit exams, and a final exam