

# EARTH SCIENCE

The Earth Science program emphasizes study in Earth Systems Science – a STEM field and an interdisciplinary focus of study that examines our planet’s connected natural systems of the atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, pedosphere, and our place in the cosmos. We explore the chemical, physical and biological processes operating at and near Earth’s surface. Earth Science students are well prepared for the workforce or graduate study through an interdisciplinary breadth and depth of study and hands-on training in the field, laboratory, and classroom.

## PROGRAMS



### DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

- Bachelor of Science in Earth Science
- Bachelor of Science in Earth Science Teaching (5-12)
- Earth Science Minor
- Geomorphology and Earth Surface Processes Certificate

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Earth Science program offers a variety of learning opportunities to prepare students to excel in and out of the classroom. Earth Systems Science is a STEM field that utilizes our understanding of the various interconnected systems on Earth to address major environmental problems of our time.

## REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS



### SKILLS AND TALENTS

- Scientific Research
- Communication Skills
- Data Synthesis and Interpretation
- Computer Skills
- Geospatial Technology Skills
- Scientific Methods

### CAREERS

- Natural Resource Management
- Meteorologist/Climatologist
- Environmental Scientist/Consultant
- Conservation Scientist
- Educator (Professor/K-12)
- Geomorphologist/Hazards Scientist

### EMPLOYERS

- Public Sector/Government Agencies
- Environmental Engineering/Consulting Firms
- Colleges and Universities
- Conservation Organizations
- Public and Private Education

## INSPIRED ACTION



### EMPLOYMENT RATE

**73.7%**  
of program graduates begin their careers within one year of graduation.

Graduates: 26  
Respondents: 21  
[link.mnsu.edu/graduate-follow-up](http://link.mnsu.edu/graduate-follow-up)

### MEDIAN SALARY

**\$92,580**

The median annual wage for Geoscientists in May 2023.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Geoscientists, at [link.mnsu.edu/geoscientists-salary](http://link.mnsu.edu/geoscientists-salary)

### PROGRAM WEBSITE



[hss.mnsu.edu/earth-science](http://hss.mnsu.edu/earth-science)

## SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN - EARTH SCIENCE, BS

First Year (Fall)	First Year (Spring)
GEOG 101 Introduction to Physical Geography (3) AST 101 Introduction to Astronomy (3) ENG 101 Foundations of Writing & Rhetoric (4) General Education Course, 5 (3) FYEX 100 First Year Experience (1)	AST 102 Introduction to Planets (3) MATH 115 Pre-Calculus (4) General Education Course, 6 (3) General Education Course, 11 (2-3)
Second Year (Fall)	Second Year (Spring)
CHEM 201 General Chemistry I (5) GEOL 121 Physical Geology (4) General Education Course, 7 (3) General Education Course, 1 pt. B (3+)	GEOL 122 Earth History (4) BIOL 100 Our Natural World (4) General Education Course, 8 (3+) General Education Course, 9 (3+)
Third Year (Fall)	Third Year (Spring)
PHYS 211 Principals of Physics (4) GEOG 210W Landscapes and Places (3) GEOG 217 Weather (4) GEOG 315 Geomorphology (3)	GEOL 373 Introduction to Geography Information Systems (4) GEOG 416W Fluvial Geomorphology and Hydrology General Education Course, 5 (3+) General Education Course, 6 (3+)
Fourth Year (Fall)	Fourth Year (Spring)
GEOG 410 Climatic Environments (3) GEOL 201 Elements of Mineralogy (4) Elective Course in Major (3) General Elective Course (4+)	Elective Course in Major (3) General Elective Course (4) General Elective Course (3) General Elective Course (3)

For more information about program requirements, visit:

[mnsu.edu/academics/academic-catalog](https://mnsu.edu/academics/academic-catalog)

### LEARN MORE

#### Earth Science

335 Trafion Science Center N

507-389-2617

[phillip.larson@mnsu.edu](mailto:phillip.larson@mnsu.edu)

### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---