

CLOUDSAT

CALIPSO

AQUA

PARASOL

AURA



It's not always rocket science.  
Explore another side of NASA!

### VIRGINIA EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE SCHOLARS (VESSS) COURSE

VESSS is a **FREE** program that allows **high school juniors and seniors to earn up to five transferable college credits** by engaging in a NASA developed course using an Environmental/Earth Science theme. The Online course teaches a broad range of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) skills aligned with the Virginia Standards of Learning. Based on course performance, scholars may be selected to participate in an all-expense paid seven-day residential Summer Academy at NASA Langley Research Center.

### COURSE

This transferable, four-credit, Topics GOL 195 dual enrollment course, offered through Thomas Nelson Community College (TNCC), engages the student in real world investigations of the Earth and its highly dynamic systems through the use of the latest research and data from NASA's Earth Science missions. Students develop an understanding of the Earth's responses to both natural and man-made changes to climate, weather, and natural hazards. Students will explore NASA's major Earth Science missions addressing how the global Earth System is changing, how the Earth system will change in the future, the causes of these changes, and the societal benefits provided through study of the Earth's system science.

### RESIDENTIAL NASA SUMMER ACADEMY

Students selected to participate in the **FREE** seven-day Summer Academy are immersed in the design of a hypothetical mission to study one of the Earth's major spheres and how the spheres are interconnected. Students will address a real-world scenario based on NASA missions which are currently being studied or that will be studied in the Earth System Sciences. Students can earn an additional transferable independent research credit, in GOL 195.



- Work on a mission design project
- Mentoring by expert NASA scientists and engineers
- Tour NASA facilities
- Open the door to a world of career possibilities at NASA!

Contact: [joyce.h.corriere@nasa.gov](mailto:joyce.h.corriere@nasa.gov)  
More info: [www.vsgc.edu.edu/VESSS](http://www.vsgc.edu.edu/VESSS)

**Application Deadline**  
**November 11, 2018**



The program is a partnership between the Virginia Space Grant Consortium, NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton University, Thomas Nelson Community College, Virginia Aerospace Business Association (VASBA), and the National Institute of Aerospace.