

# Virginia Earth System Science Scholars

## About The Program

The VESSS program challenges the next generation of scientists and engineers to become part of the solution to one of the most significant issues faced by society—climate change and its global impacts. While working with some of the world's leading authorities on climate change issues, the course develops skills across a range of science, technology, and mathematics (STEM) careers. During the summer academy, facility tours, such as the Hangar, meeting, accomplished guest speakers, such as Dr. Darden, NASA's Hidden Figure, and direct mentoring by NASA scientists and engineers ensure an unforgettable week while designed a satellite mission to study climate change.

## On-line Course

In the online portion, transferable, four-credit Topics GOL 105 dual enrollment course, offered through Thomas Nelson Community College (TNCC), engages the student in real-world investigations of the Earth and its systems using the latest research and data from NASA. Students develop an understanding of the Earth's responses to both natural and man-made changes to the climate and the impacts of these changes on global society. Examples of topics discussed are sea-level rise, glacial melt, and global temperature changes using NASA's major Earth Science missions. In addition, topics address how the global Earth System is changing, how the Earth system will change in the future, and the causes of these changes.

## Residential NASA Summer Academy

Students selected to participate in the FREE seven-day Summer Academy are immersed in designing a hypothetical mission to study Earth's major spheres and how the spheres are interconnected. While there, they will meet scientists and engineers leading the research on the global impacts of climate change. Students can earn additional transferable credit in Supervised Studies (GOL 199).

Let's begin working towards making our Earth a better place. Sign up for VESSS for your NASA experience. Click the icon below, or visit <https://spacegrant.net/apps/?pk=vesss> to apply.

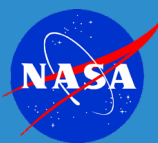
**Apply Now** ▶▶

**Applications Open:**

**August 15 —October 24**



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This 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.