

## **ISCI 2001: Life & Earth Science for Early Childhood Education Fall 2013 Course Syllabus, Valdosta State University**

*Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I'll understand.  
~ Chinese Proverb*

*The purpose of learning is growth, and our minds, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as long as we live.*

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**Office Hours:** MW 2:00 – 3:00 pm and by appointment

**Class Meetings:** MW: Lab Sessions: 9:00 am section A, 10:00 am section B,  
11:00 am section C, Bailey Science Center 1043

MW: Lecture 1:00 – 1:50 pm sections A, B, and C  
Bailey Science Center 1023

### **Learning Outcomes**

**Identify** – Scientific concepts involved in understanding the Life & Earth Sciences

**Reflect**

**Instructional Philosophy:** ISCI 2001 will bridge the gap between scientific and educational disciplinary training by allowing future teachers to learn new scientific information through a variety of instructional innovations. The course employs methods that enact the rhetoric of science education reform. This nontraditional approach to college science helps prospective elementary school teachers make connections between methods of teaching and learning science. By teaching for constructivist learning, emphasis will be placed on the acquisition of conceptual understanding of scientific information.

**Textbook:** *Life and Earth Science for Early Childhood Education EBook Fall 2013*

To purchase the Ebook:

1. Go to <http://create.mcgraw-hill.com/shop/>
2. Search for and select book by Title, ISBN, Author, or State/School.  
ISBN: 9781121799820  
Title: LIFE AND EARTH SCIENCE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
3. Add the book to your cart and pay using a credit card or access code.

**Required Reading:** The ebook has chapters taken from a few different textbooks commonly used in intro bio, geology, and environmental science courses. It covers most (if not all) of the material to support what you learn in class and what you will eventually teach. It is not necessary to spend time on information that goes into detail over subjects that are not covered in class. For material that is not covered in the book you will have to look for other **reputable** sources. Other science texts or credible internet sites are welcomed. When using resources for homework assignments etc... you must provide the website url or book name to indicate it was used.

**Academic Honesty:** Members of the class are expected to maintain high standards of integrity. The VSU Biology Department Statement on Plagiarism clarifies common types of academic misconduct. Dishonesty will not be tolerated; evidence of cheating will result in no credit for the assignment or depending on the case, a grade of "F" for the course and letter of concern documenting the problem to the College of Education. Please see end of syllabus for clarification.

**Special Services:** Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability should discuss this need at the beginning of the semester. Students not registered with the Special Services Program should contact the Special Services Office, Nevins Hall 1115, 245-2498.

**Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act:** Grades cannot be posted by Name, Social Security Number, or other Personal Identifiers. Grades and student work will not be given over the telephone, by email or to another student.

**Class Conduct:**

### **Assessment of Learning:**

**Class Participation and Attendance:** Since more than half of this course involves active experiences, it is not possible to "makeup" missed material; therefore, **attendance is mandatory**. Absences need to be university approved and will require documentation substantiating the absence. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain missed material from one of their classmates. During lab you will be working in groups or with a partner most of the time. To deduce your class participation, the other members of your group will be asked to evaluate your participation and effort and will form the basis of your participation grade. Anyone who misses **more than 20% of the class sessions** will receive a failing grade for the course.

**Short Assignments:** Short assignments will be given throughout the course to ensure understanding of the material that is being covered and sufficient preparation for tests and large projects. These assignments are worth **10%** of your final grade which is based on whether directions were followed, the amount of effort put into the assignment, a clear demonstration of understanding of the material, and effort g

**Educational Resources Project (Group):**

**Topics & Course Schedule: Schedule is tentative and is subject to change**

**Date Class Topic**

Week 1