



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



**VIRGINIA EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE SCHOLARS (VESSS)**

This **FREE** program awards **high school juniors and seniors up to five transferable college credits** through engagement in a NASA-developed course using an Environmental/Earth Science theme. The on-line course develops skills across a range of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and is aligned with the Virginia Standards of Learning. Scholars selected from the on-line course may be invited to participate in a **FREE** seven-day residential Summer Academy at NASA Langley Research Center.

**ON-LINE COURSE**

VESSS engages students in authentic investigations of the Earth's dynamic natural systems by using the latest data and research techniques employed by NASA's own Earth Science missions. Students interested in analyzing the role of natural and man-made changes in natural hazards, climate variability, and weather patterns will find the course especially engaging! The on-line VESSS course is offered for dual enrollment (GOL 105, 4 credits) through Thomas Nelson Community College (TNCC).

**RESIDENTIAL NASA SUMMER ACADEMY**

Participants in the **FREE** seven-day Summer Academy will collaborate in a team setting to plan a hypothetical satellite mission designed to address a gap in our current scientific understanding of Earth's complex systems. Facility tours on-center at NASA Langley, accomplished guest speakers, and direct mentoring by NASA scientists and engineers ensure an unforgettable week! Students may earn one additional college credit in Independent Research (TNCC GOL 199) by completing the Summer Academy.

- Design a simulated satellite mission
- Enjoy mentoring by NASA scientists/engineers
- Tour NASA facilities
- Open the door to a world of internships and career possibilities at NASA!

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More info: [vsgc.odu.edu/VESSS](http://vsgc.odu.edu/VESSS)

**Application Information**

**Opens: August 15, 2021**  
**Closes: October 24, 2021**



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.