THE EARTH SCIENCE PROGRAM FOCUSES STUDY ON THE EARTH’S INTERRELATED NATURAL SYSTEMS OF THE ATMOSPHERE, BIOSPHERE, GEOSPHERE, HYDROSphere, CYROSphere AND EARTH’S PLACE IN THE COSMOS. EARTH SCIENCE PROVIDES THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR UNDERSTANDING THE INTERACTIONS OF CHEMICAL, PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL PROCESSES AT ALL SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL SCALES ON OUR PLANET - RANGING FROM MICROSCOPIC TO PLANETARY AND ON TIMESCALES FROM THE IMMEDIATE TO BILLIONS OF YEARS. THE IMPACT OF EARTH SYSTEMS AND HUMANS ON ONE ANOTHER ARE OF PARAMOUNT SOCIETAL IMPORTANCE AND ARE A FOCUS OF EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES.

THE EARTH SCIENCE PROGRAM PROVIDES A NUMBER OF PATHWAYS TO STUDY THE SCIENCE OF OUR PLANET. THE EARTH SCIENCE MAJOR (BA OR BS), THE CERTIFICATE IN GEOMORPHOLOGY AND EARTH SURFACE PROCESSES AND THE MINOR IN EARTH SCIENCE ARE OFFERED. AN ASSOCIATED INTERDISCIPLINARY CERTIFICATE IN “GEOARCHAEOLOGY” IS DESCRIBED UNDER “ANTHROPOLOGY,” AND AN ASSOCIATED CERTIFICATE IN “GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE” IS DESCRIBED UNDER “GEOGRAPHY.” FOR SECONDARY TEACHER LICENSURE, SEE THE “SCIENCE TEACHING” PROGRAM AND MAJOR.

ACADEMIC MAP/DEGREE PLAN AT www.mnsu.edu/programs/#All

POLICIES/INFORMATION

Admission to Major is granted by the department. Minimum university admission requirements are:
- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 (“C”) Contact the department for application procedures.

GPA Policy. A GPA of 2.0 or higher in a major or minor is required for graduation.

Refer to the College regarding required advising for students on academic probation.

P/N Grading Policy. All courses in earth science must be taken for a letter grade.

EARTH SCIENCE BA and BS
Degree completion = 120 credits

Major Core

EARTH SCIENCE MINOR

Required General Education for Minor

Major Restricted Electives

GEOL 302 Petrology (4)
GEOL 320W Sedimentology and Stratigraphy (4)
GEOL 330 Structural Geology (4)
GEOL 370 Geotectonics (2)
GEOL 410 Glacial Geology (3)
GEOL 450 Hydrogeology (3)
GEOL 497 Internship (1-10)

Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY: language (8 credits)

Minor Required: None.

EARTH SCIENCE BS TEACHING (5-12)

Requirements for the Earth Science, Teaching major can be found in the SCIENCE TEACHING section of this catalog.

Other Graduation Requirements

See the SECONDARY EDUCATION section for admission requirements to Professional Education and a list of required professional education courses.

EARTH SCIENCE MINOR

Required General Education for Minor

Major Restricted Electives

GEOL 411 Soils Geomorphology (3)
GEOL 416W Fluvial Geomorphology and Hydrology (4)

Major Unrestricted Electives

At least six credits must be taken. Choose courses from two of the three listed departments. GEOG 411 and GEOG 416 can be taken as an unrestricted elective if they were not taken as a restricted elective.