

CFISD Astronomy Course Scope and Sequence (2025–2026)

Course Description

In Astronomy, students focus on patterns, processes, and relationships among astronomical objects in our universe. Students acquire astronomical knowledge and supporting evidence about Sun-Earth-Moon relationships, the solar system, the Milky Way, the size and scale of the universe, and the benefits and limitations of exploration. Students conduct laboratory and field investigations to support their developing conceptual framework of our place in space and time.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills: Astronomy

First Semester (81 Days)

1st Grading Period (Aug. 13 – Oct. 9, 2025)

| Unit | Title | Date Range | Days** |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| -- | SEL & Lab Safety | Aug.13 – Aug. 15, 2025 | 3 |
| Unit 1 | Astronomical Observations Over Time | Aug. 18 – Sept. 12, 2025 | 19 |
| Unit 2 | Sun-Earth-Moon System | Sept. 15 – Oct. 1, 2025 | 13 |

2nd Grading Period (Oct. 15 – Dec. 18, 2025)

| Unit | Title | Date Range | Days** |
|--------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Unit 3 | Our Solar System | Oct. 2 – Nov. 5, 2025 | 20 |
| Unit 4 | Planetary Seasons | Nov. 6 – Dec. 10, 2025 | 20 |
| -- | Finals Exams: Review & Administration | Dec. 11 – Dec. 18, 2025 | 6 |

Second Semester (92 Days)

3rd Grading Period (Jan. 6 – Mar. 6, 2026)

| Unit | Title | Date Range | Days** |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Unit 5 | Our Sun | Jan. 6 – Jan. 20, 2026 | 10 |
| Unit 6 | Determining Stellar Characteristics | Jan. 21 – Feb. 10, 2026 | 15 |
| Unit 7 | Life Cycles of Stars | Feb. 11 – Mar. 6, 2026 | 16 |

4th Grading Period (Mar. 16 – May 28, 2026)

| Unit | Title | Date Range | Days** |
|---------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| Unit 8 | Galaxies | Mar. 16 – Apr. 7, 2026 | 15 |
| Unit 9 | Theories of Cosmology | Apr. 8 – Apr. 28, 2026 | 15 |
| Unit 10 | Space Exploration | Apr. 29 – May 19, 2026 | 15 |
| -- | Finals Exams: Review & Administration | May 20 – May 28, 2026 | 6 |

**The length of each unit is a specific number of days, but it is understood that there is a range of +/- a day. The purpose of the flexibility is to allow teachers the opportunity to plan for the needs of their students and to accommodate re-teaching or review when necessary. If pre-assessment indicates student mastery could be obtained in a shorter number of days, the additional time could be used for extension or carried into the next unit.

Instructional Material(s):

Foundations of Astronomy
Seeds, Backman
ISBN: 9798214066691
14th Edition
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