

CFISD Astronomy Course Scope and Sequence (2026–2027)

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 (80 Days)

1st Grading Period (Aug. 12 – Oct. 8, 2026)

Unit	Title	Date Range	Days**
--	SEL & Lab Safety	Aug.12 – Aug. 14, 2026	3
Unit 1	Astronomical Observations Over Time	Aug. 17 – Sep. 16, 2026	22
Unit 2	Sun-Earth-Moon System	Sept. 17 – Oct. 8, 2026	16

2nd Grading Period (Oct. 19 – Dec. 18, 2026)

Unit	Title	Date Range	Days**
Unit 3	Our Solar System	Oct. 19 – Nov. 11, 2026	17
Unit 4	Planetary Seasons	Nov. 12 – Dec. 11, 2026	17
--	Finals Exams: Review & Administration	Dec. 14 – Dec. 18, 2026	5

Second Semester (93 Days)

3rd Grading Period (Jan. 5 – Mar. 11, 2027)

Unit	Title	Date Range	Days**
Unit 5	Our Sun	Jan. 5 – Jan. 20, 2027	11
Unit 6	Determining Stellar Characteristics	Jan. 21 – Feb. 12, 2027	17
Unit 7	Life Cycles of Stars	Feb. 16 – Mar. 11, 2027	18

4th Grading Period (Mar. 22 – May 27, 2027)

Unit	Title	Date Range	Days**
Unit 8	Galaxies	Mar. 22 – Apr. 9, 2027	14
Unit 9	Theories of Cosmology	Apr. 12 – Apr. 30, 2027	14
Unit 10	Space Exploration	May 3 – May 20, 2027	14
--	Finals Exams: Review & Administration	May 21 – May 27, 2027	5

**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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