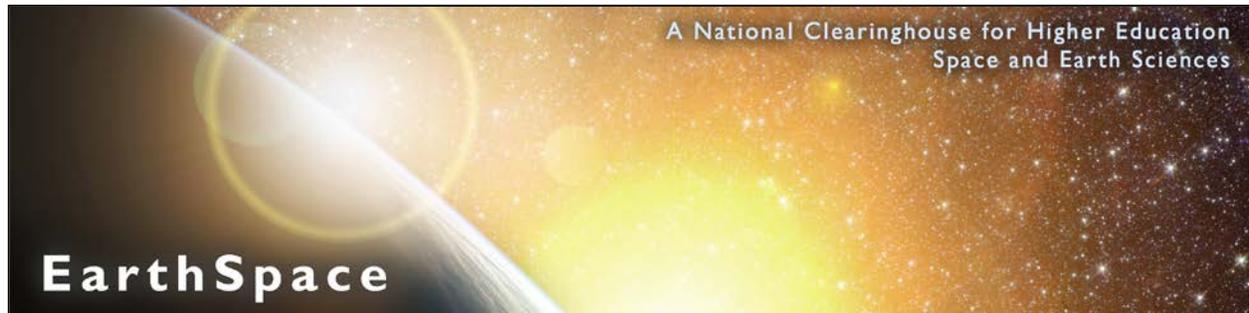


EARTHSPACE: A NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION MATERIALS AND INFORMATION IN EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES. H. A. Dalton¹, E. A. CoBabe-Ammann^{2,1}, S. S. Shipp¹.
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What is EarthSpace? EarthSpace is a searchable database of undergraduate classroom materials for undergraduate faculty teaching Earth and space sciences at both the introductory and upper division levels. Modeled after the highly successful SERC clearinghouse for geosciences assets, EarthSpace was designed for easy submission of classroom assets – from homeworks and computer interactives to laboratories and lectures. All materials are reviewed before posting, and authors adhere to the Creative Commons Non-Commercial Attribution (CC-BY NC 3.0). If authors wish, their EarthSpace materials are automatically cross-posted to other digital libraries and virtual higher education communities. In addition to classroom assets, EarthSpace provides news and information about educational research, funding opportunities, and ongoing efforts for undergraduate education. EarthSpace can be accessed at <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/earthspace>.

I have great materials – how can I get them into EarthSpace for others to use? Submission of assets into EarthSpace was designed to be as quick and painless as possible, while still gathering sufficient data to make the search tool useful. When you click the Submit link, you will be asked what type of asset you will be contributing; each type of material has its own form.

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If you choose to do so, EarthSpace materials are automatically cross-posted to other digital libraries (e.g., comPADRE) and virtual higher education communities (e.g., Connexions), providing a wider distribution of your resources. As new electronic repositories come online, EarthSpace materials will automatically be sent, so you submit your materials only once and EarthSpace ensures continual distribution as time goes on and new opportunities arise.

EarthSpace is a community-driven effort; higher education faculty members contribute and review materials and thus influence the content provided on the site. The more materials that are submitted to the site, the more useful the site will be.

I am a new professor (or am teaching a class I've never taught before), and I need ideas and classroom assets – where should I look? EarthSpace's search engine has many options to make it as user-friendly as possible. You can search by keyterms (e.g., Mars, asteroids, and craters), items (e.g., homework and lectures), topics (e.g., planetary atmospheres, astrobiology, and lunar science), or author (the person that created and submitted the materials). You can narrow your search further using the Advanced Search tool. If you would like to browse the submitted assets, clicking the Education Materials link will allow you to see all of the resources in EarthSpace.

What's in it for me if I submit materials? All EarthSpace assets are peer-reviewed before posting. Peer review ensures that the quality of the EarthSpace materials is high and also provides important feedback to authors.

Your submission is a reviewed publication! The site capabilities are being expanded to allow assignment of a unique Digital Object Identifier (DOI) to

submitted materials, which will provide material developers a way to identify their submitted materials as publications on their CVs.

You are invited to volunteer to review submitted resources in your discipline with a frequency designed to fit your schedule! When you sign up to review submissions, we ask for your areas of expertise so we can match the resources submitted to reviewers who know the topics well. You will also enter your availability; whether you have time to review materials once a month or once a year, your input is valuable!

How can I find out about new materials, news, and research added to EarthSpace? In addition to classroom materials, EarthSpace provides the latest news and information about educational research and best practices, funding opportunities, and ongoing efforts and collaborations for undergraduate education. This information is emailed monthly in a newsletter to faculty members via the community mailing list, HENews. HENews is a place for the higher education community to share and receive news and information about higher education, teaching, and Earth and space science. Archived newsletters are available on the site. EarthSpace also has an RSS feed to notify members when items are added.

Who do I contact with questions or suggestions?

We would be glad to help if you have questions, have suggestions, or would like more information on EarthSpace. Contact Dr. Emily CoBabe-Ammann (ecobabe@spaceeducation.org) or send us your feedback via the Got a Comment? link on the EarthSpace website: <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/earthspace>.