

## WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

### VIRTUAL PLANNED INSTRUCTION

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Course Title:** Paleontology

**Course Number:** 10377

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** See Attachment

**Suggested Grade Level:** Grades 9-12

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Units of Credit:** .5

**PDE Certification and Staffing Policies and Guidelines (CSPG) Required Teacher Certifications:**  
CSPG 40

To find the CSPG information, go to <https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Certification/Staffing%20Guidelines/Pages/default.aspx>

**Certification verified by the WCSD Human Resources Department:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

#### **WCSD STUDENT DATA SYSTEM INFORMATION**

**Course Level:** Academic

**Mark Types:** Check all that apply.

☒ F – Final Average ☒ MP – Marking Period ☐ EXM – Final Exam

**GPA Type:** ☐ GPAEL-GPA Elementary ☐ GPAML-GPA for Middle Level ☒ NHS-National Honor Society

☒ UGPA-Non-Weighted Grade Point Average ☒ GPA-Weighted Grade Point Average

**State Course Code:**

To find the State Course Code, go to <https://nces.ed.gov/forum/sced.asp>, download the Excel file for SCED, click on SCED 6.0 tab, and chose the correct code that corresponds with the course.

#### **TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

**Supplemental Materials:** Accelerate Education (Virtual Academy)

#### **Curriculum Document**

**WCSD Board Approval:**

**Date Finalized:** 9/19/2019

**Date Approved:** 11/4/2019

**Implementation Year:** 19-20

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#### **SPECIAL EDUCATION, 504, and GIFTED REQUIREMENTS**

The teacher shall make appropriate modifications to instruction and assessment based on a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), Chapter 15 Section 504 Plan (504), and/or Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP).

#### **ASSESSMENTS**

**PSSA Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content:** The teacher must be knowledgeable of the PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content and incorporate them regularly into planned instruction.

**Formative Assessments:** The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to conduct in-process evaluations of student learning.

**Effective formative assessments for this course include:** Lesson quizzes, projects, discussion boards, and module exams

**Summative Assessments:** The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional task, lesson, and/or unit.

**Effective summative assessments for this course include:** Semester exams

## Course Components

### Introduction to Paleontology: The Foundation in Geology

- Key Terms
- Glossary of Key Terms - Module 1
- Lesson 1
- What Is Paleontology
- Lesson 2
- Geology, Part 1
- Assessment 1
- Critical Thinking Question 1
- Lesson 3
- Geology, Part 2
- Lesson 4
- Geological Processes
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 1
- Lesson 5
- Geological Time
- Assessment 2
- Critical Thinking Question 2
- Lesson 6
- The Fossil Record
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 2
- Module Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions

### Life and Adaptation

- Key Terms
- Glossary of Key Terms - Module 2
- Lesson 1
- What Is Life?
- Lesson 2
- Origin of Life Theories
- Lesson 3
- Biodiversity and Ecosystems
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 1
- Assessment 1
- Critical Thinking Question 1
- Lesson 4
- Biodiversity and Adaptation
- Lesson 5

- Enter Evolutionary Theorists
- Assessment 2
- Critical Thinking Question 2
- Lesson 6
- Enter the Theory of Natural Selection
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 2
- Module Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions

## **Natural Selection and Evolution**

- Key Terms
- Glossary of Key Terms - Module 3
- Lesson 1
- The Theory of Natural Selection
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 1
- Lesson 2
- Evidence of Evolution, Part 1
- Assessment 1
- Critical Thinking Question 1
- Lesson 3
- Evidence of Evolution, Part 2
- Lesson 4
- Variation in Species
- Lesson 5
- Evolution and New Species
- Assessment 2
- Critical Thinking Question 2
- Lesson 6
- Speciation in the News
- Lesson 7
- Micro vs. Macro Evolution
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 2
- Module Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions

## **Extinction and Fossils**

- Key Terms
- Glossary of Key Terms - Module 4
- Lesson 1
- Extinction: Mass Extinction Events
- Lesson 2
- Extinction: Causes and Survival
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 1

- Lesson 3
- The 6th Mass Extinction Event
- Assessment 1
- Critical Thinking Question 1
- Lesson 4
- Fossilization
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 2
- Lesson 5
- Dating Methods
- Lesson 6
- Extinction in the News
- Assessment 2
- Critical Thinking Question 2
- Module Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions

## **Taxonomy**

- Key Terms
- Glossary of Key Terms - Module 5
- Lesson 1
- Taxonomy: The Need for Classification
- Lesson 2
- Taxonomy: A Closer Look
- Assessment 1
- Critical Thinking Question 1
- Lesson 3
- Dichotomous Keys
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 1
- Lesson 4
- Complications to Classification
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 2
- Lesson 5
- Systematics, Part 1
- Assessment 2
- Critical Thinking Question 2
- Lesson 6
- Systematics, Part 2
- Module Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions

## **The Dinosaurs**

- Key Terms
- Glossary of Key Terms - Module 6
- Lesson 1

- Introduction to Dinosaurs
- Lesson 2
- Ornithopods
- Assessment 1
- Critical Thinking Question 1
- Lesson 3
- Ceratopsians
- Lesson 4
- Ankylosaurs and Stegosaurs
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 1
- Lesson 5
- Sauropodomorphs
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 2
- Lesson 6
- Theropods
- Assessment 2
- Critical Thinking Question 2
- Module Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions

## **Prehistoric Creatures**

- Key Terms
- Glossary of Key Terms - Module 7
- Lesson 1
- Introduction to Ancient Life
- Lesson 2
- Enter the Vertebrate
- Lesson 3
- Vertebrates Take to Land
- Assessment 1
- Critical Thinking Question 1
- Lesson 4
- Mosasaurs and Pteradons
- Lesson 5
- Vertebrate Predators
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 1
- Lesson 6
- The Evolution of Humans
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 2
- Assessment 2
- Critical Thinking Question 2
- Module Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions

## **Paleontology: Past, Present, and Future**

- Key Terms
- Glossary of Key Terms - Module 8
- Lesson 1
- History of Paleontology
- Lesson 2
- Paleontologists in North America
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 1
- Lesson 3
- From the Field to the Museum
- Web Activity
- Web Activity 2
- Assessment 1
- Critical Thinking Question 1
- Lesson 4
- Paleontology and Technology, Part 1
- Lesson 5
- Paleontology and Technology, Part 2
- Lesson 6
- Paleontology and You
- Assessment 2
- Critical Thinking Question 2
- Module Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions
- Final Exam
- Multiple Choice Questions

### **Assessment Guide: Reflection Questions**

At the end of each lesson is a reflection question. These questions are designed to help you understand the learning objectives of each lesson. Reflection questions are not submitted for grading.

### **Assessment Guide: Module Exams**

At the end of each module is a multiple choice exam with 20 questions. These tests ensure that you understand the content of each module before you proceed to the next module.

### **Assessment Guide: Web Activities**

There are two web activities in every module. Web activities usually involve visiting an external website, watching a video or animation, and answering a few questions about what you learn from the video. Web activity questions are not submitted for grading.

### **Assessment Guide: Extended Response Questions**

There are two extended response questions in every module. These questions test your critical thinking skills and need to be submitted for grading.

## **Assessment Guide:** Final Exam

At the end of the course is a final exam with 50 questions. You will need to pass the final exam in order to pass the course.