

Science

Science is the study of the world brought into existence by God’s creative Word. To study creation is to learn not only about the world but also about God, who made the world, redeemed it, and supports and preserves all things for the benefit of humanity. Teaching science from a distinctively Lutheran perspective means affirming the foundation of God’s true and creative Word. Scientific conclusions that conflict with this Word threaten to undermine the Lutheran student’s appetite for scientific discovery, even as the practical blessings delivered through science and science vocations invite Christian pursuit. The conflict of prevailing scientific theories regarding the age and origin of the universe and life on earth with biblical accounts is representative of the persistent check that God’s Word places on the unbridled human pursuit of knowledge. However, in the hands of the baptized, science becomes a God-pleasing pursuit of knowledge and understanding that benefits the neighbor. These Lutheran Science Standards underscore the acknowledgment of the eternal truth of God’s Word as well as the opportunities to serve the neighbor in love through science vocations.

These standards are not divided by grade levels; the Lutheran Academic Anchor Standards will serve as the Portrait of a Graduate of any Lutheran School.

General Content Standard	National Anchor Standard	Lutheran Academic Anchor Standard	Scripture Connections
SCI1	NGSS ESS1	Students will demonstrate a knowledge of and interpret the complex ordering of the universe as evidence of divine design by their loving God.	“I made the earth and created man on it; it was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all their host.” (Isaiah 45:12) “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.” (Psalm 19:1)
SCI2	NGSS LS1	Students will recognize and describe the laws of nature and mathematics as the intentional design of their loving God (e.g., gender as a part of created order).	“And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.” (Colossians 1:17) “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” (Genesis 1:27)

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SCI3	NGSS ESS2	Students will engage in and demonstrate knowledge of scientific investigation as the study of the work of God as both Creator and Sustainer of the universe and all life (e.g., six-day creation).	<p>Genesis 1–2</p> <p>“[Christ] is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.” (Hebrews 1:3a)</p> <p>“For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.” (Romans 1:20)</p>
SCI4	NGSS ESS3	Students will recognize their own place in creation and demonstrate care and concern for the environment as a responsibility of stewardship and a response of thanksgiving to the Creator.	<p>“The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.” (Genesis 2:15)</p>
SCI5	NGSS LS2	Students will demonstrate understanding and respect for life and will value human life, including their own, at all stages (e.g., sanctity of all human life).	<p>“For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.” (Psalm 139:13–14)</p>
SCI6	NGSS LS1	Students will recognize and describe God’s goodness in all life, the effect of sin in all death, and God’s gracious provision in all things.	<p>“God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.” (Genesis 1:31)</p> <p>“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)</p> <p>“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)</p>

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SCI7	N/A	Students will engage in the problem-solving application of scientific knowledge and demonstrate understanding that true solutions will align with God's laws.	"Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth." (John 17:17) "Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him." (Proverbs 30:5)
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NGSS=Next Generation Science Standards