

2009-2010 Curriculum Map for Natural Disasters Course

Meteorological Events Unit (August – October)

1. Atmospheric Structure – Ozone Depletion
2. Energy Transfer in the atmosphere
3. Wind systems – global and local
4. Atmospheric pressure
5. Water in the atmosphere
6. Cloud/fog formation and types
7. Precipitation formation and types
8. High and low pressure systems
9. Frontal systems
10. Thunderstorm formation
 - a. Flash Floods
 - b. Lightning
 - c. Hail
 - d. Tornadoes
 - e. Microburst
11. Storm systems
 - a. Hurricanes
 - b. Snow storms
 - c. Floods
12. Climatology
 - a. Drought
 - b. Global warming - Is it happening?

Geological Events Unit (Oct – Nov)

1. Continental Drift Theory
2. Plate tectonics and seafloor spreading
3. Plate boundaries
4. Earthquakes
 - a. Seismic wave speeds
 - b. Finding the epicenter
5. Volcanoes
 - a. Types
 - b. Mt St Helens
 - c. Tsunamis
6. Land/rock/mud slides

Astronomical Events Unit (Dec)

1. Solar system
 - a. Formation
 - b. Planets, asteroids, comets, etc.
 - c. Earth impacts
2. Star life cycle
 - a. Our sun
 - b. Supernovas
 - c. Black holes, neutron stars