2019 Unit 07: Human Activity and Climate

Content Area: **Science**
Course(s): **Honors Biology**
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Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

In this unit of study, students examine factors that have influenced the distribution and development of human society; these factors include climate, natural resource availability, and natural disasters. Students use *computational representations* to analyze how earth systems and their relationships are being modified by human activity. Students also develop an understanding of how human activities affect natural resources and of the interdependence between humans and Earth's systems, which affect the availability of natural resources. Students will apply their engineering capabilities to reduce human impacts on earth systems and improve social and environmental cost–benefit ratios. The crosscutting concepts of *cause and effect*, *systems and systems models*, *stability and change*, and *the influence of engineering, technology, and science on society and the natural world* are called out as organizing concepts for the disciplinary core ideas. Students will analyze and interpret data, use mathematical and computational thinking, and construct explanations as they demonstrate understanding of the disciplinary core ideas.

Enduring Understandings

- Humans depend on Earth's resources

- Humans interact with the living and the nonliving components of their environment and these interactions have consequences

Essential Questions

- How and why do humans interact with their environment and what are the effects of these interactions?

- How do humans depend on Earth's resources?

Student Learning Objectives (Performance Expectations)

- Analyze geoscience data and the results from global climate models to make an evidence-based forecast of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth systems. [Clarification Statement: Examples of evidence, for both data and climate model outputs, are for climate changes (such as precipitation and temperature) and their associated impacts (such as on sea level, glacial ice volumes, or atmosphere and ocean composition).] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to one example of a climate change and its associated impacts.] (HS-ESS3-5)

- Construct an explanation based on evidence for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity. [Clarification Statement: Examples of key natural resources include access to fresh water (such as rivers, lakes, and groundwater), regions of fertile soils such as river deltas, and high concentrations of minerals and fossil fuels. Examples

of natural hazards can be from interior processes (such as volcanic eruptions and earthquakes), surface processes (such as tsunamis, mass wasting and soil erosion), and severe weather (such as hurricanes, floods, and droughts). Examples of the results of changes in climate that can affect populations or drive mass migrations include changes to sea level, regional patterns of temperature and precipitation, and the types of crops and livestock that can be raised.] (HS-ESS3-1)

• Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem based on prioritized criteria and tradeoffs that account for a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, as well as possible social, cultural, and environmental impacts. (HS-ETS1-3)

• Evaluate or refine a technological solution that reduces impacts of human activities on natural systems.* [Clarification Statement: Examples of data on the impacts of human activities could include the quantities and types of pollutants released, changes to biomass and species diversity, or areal changes in land surface use (such as for urban development, agriculture and livestock, or surface mining). Examples for limiting future impacts could range from local efforts (such as reducing, reusing, and recycling resources) to large-scale geoengineering design solutions (such as altering global temperatures by making large changes to the atmosphere or ocean).] (HS-ESS3-4)

• Use a computational representation to illustrate the relationships among Earth systems and how those relationships are being modified due to human activity. [Clarification Statement: Examples of Earth systems to be considered are the hydrosphere, atmosphere, cryosphere, geosphere, and/or biosphere. An example of the far-reaching impacts from a human activity is how an increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide results in an increase in photosynthetic biomass on land and an increase in ocean acidification, with resulting impacts on sea organism health and marine populations.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include running computational representations but is limited to using the published results of scientific computational models.] (HS-ESS3-6)

Science & Engineering Practices

9-12.HS-ETS1-1.1.1	Analyze complex real-world problems by specifying criteria and constraints for successful solutions.
9-12.HS-ETS1-3.6.1	Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem, based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations.
9-12.HS-ETS1-2.6.1	Design a solution to a complex real-world problem, based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

9-12.HS-LS2-6.LS2.C.1	A complex set of interactions within an ecosystem can keep its numbers and types of organisms relatively constant over long periods of time under stable conditions. If a modest biological or physical disturbance to an ecosystem occurs, it may return to its more or less original status (i.e., the ecosystem is resilient), as opposed to becoming a very different ecosystem. Extreme fluctuations in conditions or the size of any population, however, can challenge the functioning of ecosystems in terms of resources and habitat availability.
9-12.HS-LS2-7.LS2.C.1	Moreover, anthropogenic changes (induced by human activity) in the environment— including habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, overexploitation, and climate change—can disrupt an ecosystem and threaten the survival of some species.
9-12.HS-LS2-7.LS4.D.2	Humans depend on the living world for the resources and other benefits provided by biodiversity. But human activity is also having adverse impacts on biodiversity through overpopulation, overexploitation, habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, and climate change. Thus sustaining biodiversity so that ecosystem functioning and productivity are maintained is essential to supporting and enhancing life on Earth.

Sustaining biodiversity also aids humanity by preserving landscapes of recreational or inspirational value.

| 9-12.HS-LS2-7.ETS1.B.1 | When evaluating solutions it is important to take into account a range of constraints including cost, safety, reliability and aesthetics and to consider social, cultural and environmental impacts. |

Cross Cutting Concepts

| 9-12.HS-LS3-1.2.1 | students understand that empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about specific causes and effects. They suggest cause and effect relationships to explain and predict behaviors in complex natural and designed systems. They also propose causal relationships by examining what is known about smaller scale mechanisms within the system. They recognize changes in systems may have various causes that may not have equal effects. |
| 9-12.HS-LS2-6.7.1 | students understand much of science deals with constructing explanations of how things change and how they remain stable. They quantify and model changes in systems over very short or very long periods of time. They see some changes are irreversible, and negative feedback can stabilize a system, while positive feedback can destabilize it. They recognize systems can be designed for greater or lesser stability. |

Unit Sequence

- • Although the magnitude of human impacts are greater than they have ever been, so too are human abilities to model, predict, and manage current and future impacts.

- • Analysis of costs and benefits is a critical aspect of decisions about technology.

- • Analyze and describe the inputs and outputs of Earth systems.

- • Analyze geosciences data and the results from global climate models to make an evidence-based forecast of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth systems.

- • Change in rates of change can be quantified and modeled over very short or very long periods of time. Some system changes are irreversible.

- • Changes in climate can affect population or drive mass migration.

- • Construct an explanation based on valid and reliable evidence for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.

- • Criteria may need to be broken down into similar ones that can be approached systematically, and decisions about the priority of certain criteria over others (trade-offs) may be needed.

- • Current models predict that, although future regional climate changes will be complex and will vary, average global temperatures will continue to rise.

- • Describe the boundaries of Earth systems.

- • Empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and make claims about how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activities.

- • Engineers continuously modify these systems to increase benefits while decreasing costs and risks.

- • Evaluate or refine a technological solution that reduces impacts of human activities on natural systems based on scientific knowledge and student-generated sources of evidence; prioritize criteria and tradeoff considerations.

- • Feedback (negative or positive) can stabilize or destabilize natural systems.

- • Human activities can modify the relationships among Earth systems.

- • Modern civilization depends on major technological systems.

- • Natural hazards and other geologic events have shaped the course of human history.

- • Natural hazards and other geologic events have significantly altered the sizes of human populations and have driven human migration.

- • New technologies can have deep impacts on society and the environment, including some that are not anticipated.

- • Quantify and model change and rates of change in geosciences data and rates of global or regional climate change and associated impacts to Earth systems.

- • Resource vitality has guided the development of human society.

- • Science investigations use diverse methods and do not always use the same set of procedures to obtain data.

- • Science knowledge is based on empirical evidence.

- • Scientist and engineers can make major contributions by developing technologies that produce less pollution and waste and that preclude ecosystem degradation.

- • The outcomes predicted by global climate models strongly depend on the amounts of human-generated greenhouse gases are added to the atmosphere each year and by the ways in which these gases are absorbed by the ocean and biosphere.

- • Through computer simulations and other studies, important discoveries are still being made about how the ocean, the atmosphere, and the biosphere interact and are modified in response to human activities.

- • Use a computational representation to illustrate the relationships among Earth systems and how these relationships are being modified due to human activity.

- • Use empirical evidence to differentiate between how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.

- • When evaluating solutions, it is important to take into account a range of constraints, including costs, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, and to consider social, cultural, and environmental impacts.

- • When investigating or describing a system, the boundaries and initial conditions of the system need to be defined and their inputs and outputs analyzed and described using models.

- Concepts

- Concepts

- Concepts

- Concepts

- Formative Assessment

- Formative Assessment

- Formative Assessment

- Formative Assessment

- Part A: How are human activities influence the global ecosystem?

- Part B: What are the relationships among earth's systems and how are those relationships being modified due to human activity?

- Part C: What is the current rate of global or regional climate change and what are the associated future impacts to Earth's systems?

- Part D: How can the impacts of human activities on natural systems be reduced?

Equity Considerations

Asian American and Pacific Islander Mandate

Lessons will include multiple perspectives from the Asian American and Pacific Islander population.

https://ideas.ted.com/8-asian-americans-and-pacific-islanders-whose-innovations-have-changed-your-life-really/

- Social

LGBTQ and Disabilities Mandate

Lessons will include multiple perspectives from the LGBTQ and Disabilities population, including Ben Barres (researcher of brain cell development and disease).

LGBTQ:

Sir Francis Bacon (1561–1626)

Florence NightingaleFrancis Bacon | Philosophy, Scientific Method, & Facts | Britannica(1820-1910)

George Washington Carver (1861-1943)

Sara Josephine Baker (1873-1945)

Alan Turing (1912-1954)

STEM   Allan Cox (1926-1987)

Sally Ride (1951-2012)

Ben Barres (1954-2017)

Ruth Gates (1962-2018)

Tim Cook (1960)

Disabilities:

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)- Dyslexia

Isaac Newton (1664-1727)- Epilepsy

Thomas Edison (1847-1931)- Hearing

Charles Darwin (1809-1882)- Stutter,
Dyslexia

Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922)- Deaf

Albert Einstein (1879-1955)- Aspergers

Florence B. Seibert (1897-1991)- Mobility

Stephen Hawking (1942-2019)- ALS

John Forbes Nash (1928-2015)-
Schizophrenia

Temple Grandin (1947)- Autism

- Social

Climate Change

In this unit of study, students examine factors that have influenced the distribution and development of human society; these factors include climate, natural resource availability, and natural disasters. Students use *computational representations* to analyze how earth systems and their relationships are being modified by human activity. Students also develop an understanding of how human activities affect natural resources and of the interdependence between humans and Earth's systems, which affect the availability of natural resources. Students will apply their engineering capabilities to reduce human impacts on earth systems and improve social and environmental cost–benefit ratios. The crosscutting concepts of *cause and effect*, *systems and systems models*, *stability and change*, and *the influence of engineering, technology, and science on society and the natural world* are called out as organizing concepts for the disciplinary core ideas. Students will analyze and interpret data, use mathematical and computational thinking, and construct explanations as they demonstrate understanding of the disciplinary core ideas.

- Political
- Social

SCI.HS-ESS3-5	Analyze geoscience data and the results from global climate models to make an evidence-based forecast of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth systems.
SCI.HS-ESS3-6	Use a computational representation to illustrate the relationships among Earth systems and how those relationships are being modified due to human activity (i.e., climate change).

Standards / Indicators

SCI.HS-LS2-2	Use mathematical representations to support and revise explanations based on evidence about factors affecting biodiversity and populations in ecosystems of different scales.

SCI.HS-LS2-1	Use mathematical and/or computational representations to support explanations of factors that affect carrying capacity of ecosystems at different scales.
SCI.HS-LS2-7	Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.

Lesson Titles

- air and water quality
- greenhouse effect and global warming
- human population growth and natural resources
- ozone depletion

Career Readiness, Life Literacies & Key Skills

WRK.K-12.P.1	Act as a responsible and contributing community members and employee.
WRK.K-12.P.4	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
WRK.K-12.P.5	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
WRK.K-12.P.8	Use technology to enhance productivity increase collaboration and communicate effectively.
WRK.K-12.P.9	Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence.

Interdisciplinary Connections:

LA.RH.9-10.7	Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative analysis in print or digital text, to analyze information presented via different mediums.
LA.RST.9-10.2	Determine the central ideas, themes, or conclusions of a text; trace the text's explanation or depiction of a complex process, phenomenon, or concept; provide an accurate summary of the text.
LA.RST.9-10.3	Follow precisely a complex multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks, attending to special cases or exceptions defined in the text.
LA.RST.9-10.7	Translate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text into visual form (e.g., a table or chart) and translate information expressed visually or mathematically (e.g., in an equation) into words.
LA.WHST.9-10.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.WHST.9-10.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.WHST.9-10.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.
LA.WHST.9-10.7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when

	appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
LA.WHST.9-10.8	Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
TECH.8.1.12.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems.
TECH.8.1.12.A.CS2	Select and use applications effectively and productively.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS2	Create original works as a means of personal or group expression.
TECH.8.1.12.C.CS1	Interact, collaborate, and publish with peers, experts, or others by employing a variety of digital environments and media.
TECH.8.1.12.C.CS4	Contribute to project teams to produce original works or solve problems.
TECH.8.1.12.D.CS2	Demonstrate personal responsibility for lifelong learning.
TECH.8.1.12.E.CS1	Plan strategies to guide inquiry.
TECH.8.1.12.E.CS2	Locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media.
TECH.8.1.12.E.CS4	Process data and report results.
TECH.8.1.12.F.CS2	Plan and manage activities to develop a solution or complete a project.
TECH.8.1.12.F.CS3	Collect and analyze data to identify solutions and/or make informed decisions.

ELA/Literacy & Math Standards

- • Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities of human activities and their impacts on natural systems.

- • Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities representing forecasts of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth systems.

- • Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities representing relationships among Earth systems and how they are being modified due to human activity.

- • Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities showing relationships between availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.

- • Choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays representing relationships between availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.

- • Cite specific textual evidence of the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.

- • Cite specific textual evidence supporting forecasts of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth systems, attending to important distinctions the author makes and to any gaps or inconsistencies in the account.

- • Cite specific textual evidence to support a technological solution that reduces the impacts of human activities on natural systems, attending to important distinctions the author makes and to any gaps or inconsistencies in the account.

- • Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling of forecasts of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth systems.

- • Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling of how the relationships among Earth systems are being modified due to human activity.

- • Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling of relationships between availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.

- • Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling of the impacts of human activities on natural systems.

- • Determine and clearly state results from data on global climate models and associated impacts to Earth systems by paraphrasing them in simpler but still accurate terms.

- • Earth systems and how they are being modified by human activity. Choose and interpret the scale and origin in graphs and data displays representing how human activity modifies relationships among Earth systems.

- • Evaluate the validity of hypotheses, data, analysis, and conclusions in a science or technical text about the impact of human activities on natural systems, verifying the data when possible and corroborating or challenging conclusions with other sources of information.

- • Integrate and evaluate global climate change data from multiple sources to reveal patterns and relationships and forecast current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts.

- • Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media in order to evaluate or refine a technological solution that reduces impacts of human activities on natural systems.

- • Read multiple sources in order to refine design solutions to reduce impacts of human activities on natural systems and create a coherent understanding of the problem.

- • Represent forecasts of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth systems symbolically, and manipulate the representing symbols. Make sense of quantities and relationships between geoscience data and results from global climate models to forecast of the current rate of global or regional climate change and associated future impacts to Earth systems.

- • Represent how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols. Make sense of quantities and relationships between availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.

- • Represent impacts of human activities on natural systems symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols. Make sense of quantities and relationships between human activities and natural systems.

- • Represent symbolically the relationships among Earth systems and how these relationships are being modified due to human activity, and manipulate the representing symbols. Make sense of quantities and relationships between Earth systems and human activity.

- • Use a mathematical model to describe human activities and their effects on natural systems. Identify important quantities in human activities and their effects on natural systems and map their relationships using tools. Analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions, reflecting on the results and improving the model if it has not served its purpose.

- • Use a mathematical model to describe the relationships among Earth systems and how those relationships are being modified due to human activity. Identify important quantities in human activities and their effects on Earth systems and map their relationships using tools. Analyze these relationships mathematically to draw conclusions, reflecting on the results and improving the model if it has not served its purpose.

- • Use empirical evidence to write an explanation for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.

- • Use units as a way to understand how relationships among Earth systems are being modified by human activity. Choose and interpret units consistently in formulas to determine relationships among systems.

- • Use units as a way to understand the impacts of human activities on natural systems. Choose and interpret units consistently in formulas to determine the impacts of human activities on natural systems. Choose and interpret the scale and origin in graphs and data displays representing the impacts of human activities on natural systems.

- • Use units as a way to understand the relationships between availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity. Choose and interpret units consistently in formulas to determine relationships between availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.

- English Language Arts/Literacy

- Mathematics

Instructional Strategies, Learning Activities, Levels of Blooms / DOK

- biome project
- class discussion
- class notes
- demonstration
- environmental problem slide presentation
- global warming project
- poster presentation
- slide presentation
- TED talk
- video clip
- webquest
- worksheets

Modifications

ELL Modifications

- Focus on domain specific vocabulary and keywords
- Group students
- K-W-L charts (what I know - what I want to know - what I've learned).
- Provide ELL students with multiple literacy strategies
- Repeat, reword, clarify
- Tap prior knowledge
- Use graphic organizer
- Use real objects when possible

IEP & 504 Modifications

- Focus on domain specific vocabulary and keywords

- modeling and showing lots of examples

- non-verbal redirection of behaviors

- providing study guides that don't lead the student to study too much extraneous information (less unnecessary details)/scaffolded study guides

- rewording questions so that there are not higher level vocabulary within the question (you are testing for understanding of the content not the ability to understand the question)

Gifted and Talented Modifications

- Ask students' higher level questions that require students to look into causes, experiences, and facts to draw a conclusion or make connections to other areas of learning

- Determine where students' interests lie and capitalize on their inquisitiveness. (Is there a specific career they are interested in? How would this apply to their interest?)

- Encourage students to explore concepts in depth and encourage independent studies or investigations

- Evaluation of thesis statements

- Generating and testing hypotheses

- Graph analysis / interpretation

- Journal article analysis

At Risk Modifications

- additional help during tutoring/Delsea One/Academic Enrichment

- hands-on Instruction

- modeling and showing lots of examples

- review, restate, reword directions

- testing modifications

- visuals

Alternative Assessments

Performance tasks
Project-based assignments
Problem-based assignments
Presentations
Reflective pieces
Concept maps
Case-based scenarios
Portfolios

Benchmark Assessments

Skills-based assessment
Reading response
Writing prompt
Lab practical

Formative Assessment

- exit ticket
- google survey
- Kahoot
- KWL form
- lesson summary
- previous class review
- question of the day
- Think-pair-share

Summative Assessment

- benchmark assessment / marking period assessment
- human impact project
- human impact test
- human population influence quiz

Resources and Materials

- Climate Change Impacts: NOAA Education Resources that can be used to teach climate science.
http://www.education.noaa.gov/Climate/Climate_Change_Impacts.html

- Digital Library for Earth System Education: DLESE is the Digital Library for Earth System Education, a free resource that supports teaching and learning about the Earth system. DLESE's development was funded by the National Science Foundation and continues to be built by a distributed community of educators, students, and scientists to support Earth system education at all levels. DLESE is operated by the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) Computational and Information Systems Laboratory and the NCAR Library on behalf of the education community.
http://www.dlese.org/library/literacy_maps/?id=SMS-MAP-1698

- Google Classroom
- textbook

Technology

- chromebooks
- https://pmm.nasa.gov/education/lesson-plans/climate-change-online
- internet

TECH.8.1.12	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.12.B	Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.
TECH.8.1.12.C	Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.
TECH.8.1.12.E	Research and Information Fluency: Students apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information.
TECH.8.1.12.F	Critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making: Students use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources.
TECH.8.2.12.C	Design: The design process is a systematic approach to solving problems.