

"Space on Earth:" a Learning Community Integrating English, Math, and Science

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Abstract

Imagine a mathematics instructor and English instructor sharing an office; scribbled equations litter one desk, snatches of poetry the other. Our learning community, "Space on Earth," grew from conversations in just such an office where we bridged our own disciplinary gap and discovered a shared passion for helping students apply the concepts and skills of our disciplines to situations outside the classroom. Since we both agreed that students must be able to transfer and apply their knowledge of English and mathematics to other college courses— as well as to improving their lives as workers, citizens, family members, and independent life-long learners—we decided to start the process of transfer with our own courses. But how do you connect a composition course with an algebra course?