

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Innovative and Informal Space Education (4)

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INCLUDING SPACE POLICY AND LAW COURSES IN STEM CURRICULA

Abstract

Improvement of STEM (science, technological, engineering, and mathematics) programs has been the focus of educational programs in a wide range of states, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Kenya, and Nigeria. Innovation in space is a correlate of STEM education. However, the development of space technology does not occur in a vacuum, but is subject to the laws and policies in place internationally and domestically. An understanding of how the technology plugs into this context appears to be a component of a well-rounded STEM education. However, cursory research reveals that this facet of space education is sorely lacking.

The paper will describe STEM curricula in various states and will present the results of research into the curricula presently included, if and where space law and policy are taught as part of STEM curricula and at what level of education, and will provide any quantifiable information relating to the issue