Remote Sensing refers to the use of satellite- or aircraft-based sensor technologies to detect and classify objects on Earth, including on the surface and in the atmosphere and oceans, based on propagated signals (e.g. electromagnetic radiation). It may be split into "active" remote sensing (i.e., when a signal is emitted by a satellite or aircraft and its reflection by the object is detected by the sensor) and "passive" remote sensing (i.e., when the reflection of sunlight is detected by the sensor).

The students learn the basics of earth observation. They outline and explain the radiation path through the atmosphere to the object under investigation and back to the sensor. They emphasize essential characteristics of remote sensing data, sensors and platforms.