



Tahoe Expedition Academy

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GRADING AND CLASS RANK

TEA relies on a percentage based grading system to report grades. Student grades reflect TEA's foundation in proficiency based grading, using skill based learning objectives to assess, evaluate and report on each student's academic progress, growth and performance.

TEA believes strongly in the principles of proficiency based grading, and utilizes learning objectives to assess, evaluate and report on each student's academic progress, growth and performance. As TEA is a small, academically rigorous school, the school does not provide a class rank. TEA utilizes a grade scale of A to C-, with less than a C- as incomplete. TEA does not offer AP and Honors level courses because our philosophy is to provide rigorous project-based learning to all students causing our baseline curriculum to be at a standard honors level. Starting with the 2022-2023 school year, TEA moved to semester grading from year long grading. All academic classes have a value of 1.0 credit and intensives have a value of 0.5.

Starting with the 2022-2023 school year, TEA returned to pre-COVID field work curriculum, which we anticipate to include up to 30 days a year outside of the classroom engaging in hands-on / real-world curriculum. Students were online during the 2020-2021 school year.

THE SCHOOL

Enrollment Pre-K to 12th:	244
Class of 2024:	10 students
Financial Aid:	33% of students
Student/Faculty Ratio:	8:1
Full-time Teaching Faculty:	29
Faculty with Advanced Degrees:	90%
First Graduating Class:	2017

HISTORY

In 2011, TEA launched a new independent school that values academic excellence, character building, and real-world adventures. Our students master academic skills and apply them to real-world problems. We are harnessing the power of young people - not only by preparing future leaders, but by tapping their creative action, right now. Since its inception, TEA has grown from 72 students in Pre-K through 8th grade to 244 students in Pre-K through 12th grade in 2023-24. Since the launch of our high school program in 2017, we have graduated a total of 64 students ready to engage with the world as creative problem solvers with a social conscience. In 2024, TEA will graduate its eighth class.

We are real-world problem solvers with a social conscience.

OUR PROGRAM

Tahoe Expedition Academy's (TEA) program connects a rigorous standards-based academic program with a modern experiential learning approach. In addition to earning the highest level of accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) in 2017, all high school courses are University of California, A-G approved.

The following learner outcomes are derived from national standards like Common Core ELA and Math, Next Generation Science, National Social Science, Secondary Language Standards, as well as character and adventure standards we created.

STUDENTS AT TEA DEVELOP THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO EMBRACE CHALLENGES AS OPPORTUNITIES.

We teach our Adapt to Thrive learner outcome by strategically pushing students out of their comfort zone both inside and outside of the classroom. Examples include engaging with adult experts on a peer-to-peer level, grappling with real-world problems that can result in failed prototypes, extended physical challenges including multiple day 30+ mile hikes, and embracing mental curveballs that simulate a variety of challenges professionals face on any given day.

STUDENTS AT TEA UTILIZE DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES TO EXAMINE ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND EQUITY THROUGH A TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE OF SUSTAINABILITY LENS.

We teach our *Triple Bottom Line* for a *Just and Equitable World* learner outcome through hands-on investigations of topics like climate change and the balance of power. Students learn the impact on different populations through statistical analysis, and evaluate solutions by looking at the social, political, economic, and environmental opportunities and impacts. We seek to teach our students how to critically think and analyze multiple perspectives so they can identify how they wish to contribute to the world in line with their own personal values.

DISTINCTIVE PROGRAMS

CHARACTER EDUCATION: POWERED BY CONSTRUCTIVE ADVERSITY

Our program intentionally pushes all students to and even beyond their intellectual, social, emotional, and physical comfort zones. This calculated risk-taking is the foundation of our school and builds confidence, augments character and helps students exceed their own ideas of what is possible. We know our students are ready for the real world because they have been trained to navigate and contribute to it.

A MODERN EXPERIENTIAL APPROACH

Students spend 30+ days/nights in the field and work with an average of 10-15 different industry experts per year to actively engage in solution generating processes for some of the world's most pressing issues. TEA students learn how to do hard things by actually doing hard things.

REAL-WORLD INTENSIVES

Real-World Intensives, a.k.a. electives, are one method TEA uses to bring learning to life. These real-world academic experiences are powered by Constructive Adversity to push students to the limits of their intellectual, social-emotional, and physical boundaries. In these semester-long graded courses aligned to national standards, students work individually and in groups to create solutions to 21st-century problems.



Tahoe Expedition Academy

TESTING

With ACT and SAT testing data starting with the class of 2017, our students have performed above the national averages. In addition, with the de-emphasis on standardized testing for college admissions, more of our students are opting to not take an SAT or ACT.

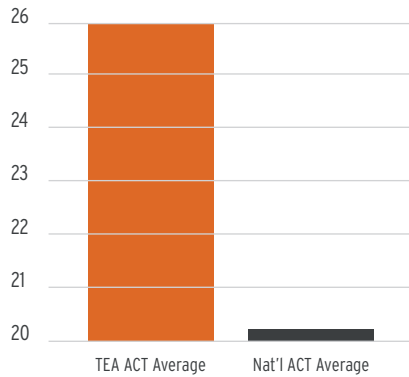
ACT 2017-2023

TEA ACT Average: 26
National ACT Average: 20

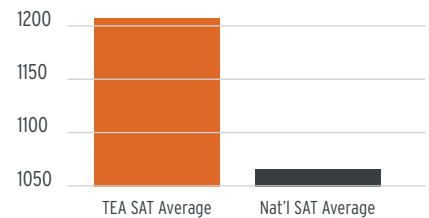
SAT 2017-2023

TEA SAT Average: 1224
National SAT Average: 1060

ACT 2017-2023



SAT 2017-2023



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students achieve a minimum level of mastery toward student learner outcomes in order to advance to the next grade level and/or receive a re-enrollment offer. Additionally, students meet specific credit requirements for graduation in order to earn a diploma from TEA.

MINIMUM TOTAL CREDITS:

20 credits over four years

English	4 Credits
Math	4 Credits
Science	4 Credits
Social Science	3 Credits
Electives*	2 Credits
Second Language	2 Credits
Individual Senior Intensive	1 Credits

*At least one year of visual and performing arts is required

COURSE OFFERINGS 2022-2023

ENGLISH

- ELA 9
- ELA 10
- ELA 11
- ELA 12

MATH

- IM I
- IM II
- IM III
- Pre Calculus
- Statistics
- Calculus

SCIENCE

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Environmental Science

SOCIAL SCIENCE

- Human Geography
- Modern World History
- US History
- Government & Politics

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

- Spanish I
- Spanish II
- Spanish III
- Spanish IV

REAL-WORLD INTENSIVES & ELECTIVES

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Art & Science of Film
- Biomimicry
- Ceramics
- Design 101
- Digital Music
- Drama
- Engineering
- Fashion & Textiles
- Holistic Health
- Intro to 2D Media & Design Art
- Intro to Computer Science
- Intro to Drawing and Painting
- Let Food Be Thy Medicine
- Meteorology
- Mindfulness and Art
- Physics of Flight
- Product Design I
- Renewable Energy
- Sports Psychology
- Wild California
- Wildflowers
- Yearbook & Journalism
- Your Brain on Exercise



Tahoe Expedition Academy

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES 2017 - 2023

100% of our seniors who applied to college since 2017, were accepted to 4-year colleges/universities, earning over **\$5,807,360** in merit-based scholarships to date. Acceptances with **bold listings** are enrollments from 2017-2023:

Academy of Art University
Arizona State University
 Babson College
 Baylor University
 Belmont University
Berklee College of Music
 Boston University
 California Polytechnic, Humboldt
 California Polytechnic, Pomona
 California Polytechnic, San Luis Obispo
California Polytechnics, San Luis Obispo (Honors)
 California State University, Channel Islands
 California State University, Chico
 California State University, Fullerton
 California State University, Long Beach
 California State University, Maritime
 California State University, San Francisco
 Case Western University
Chapman University
Colby College
 Columbia College Chicago
Colorado College
 Concordia University (Montreal)
 Elon University
Emerson College
Georgetown University
 Gonzaga University
 Hawai'i Pacific University
 Holy Names University
 Hult International Business School
 Ithaca College
 John Cabot University (Italy)
Lewis and Clark College
Loyola Marymount University
 Loyola University Chicago
 Marquette University
 Marymount Manhattan College
 Michigan State University
 Montana State University
Principia College

Montana Technological University
 New York University
Northeastern University
 Northern Arizona University
 Oberlin College
Colorado School of Mines
 Colorado State University
 Eckerd College
Emerson College
 Fort Lewis College
 Oregon Institute of Technology
 Oregon State University
 Oregon State University, Honors
 Pennsylvania State University
 Pepperdine University
Pitzer College
 Portland State University
Quest College (Canada)
 Reed College
 Regis University
 Saint Mary's College of California
San Diego State University
 San Francisco State University
 San Jose State University
 Santa Clara University
Scripps College
 Seattle Pacific University
 Sierra Nevada University
 Simmons University
 Simon Fraser University (Canada)
 Skidmore College
 South Dakota School of Mines
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
Texas Christian University
 The University of Alabama
 Tulane University
 University of Arizona
University of British Columbia (Canada)
University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
 University of California, Merced
 University of California, Riverside
 University of California, Santa Barbara
 University of California, Santa Cruz
University of California, San Diego
University of Colorado, Boulder
 University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
 University of Colorado, Denver
 University of Denver
 University of Edinburgh Napier
 University of Hawaii, Manoa
University of Idaho
 University of Miami
 University of Montana
University of Nevada, Reno
University of Oregon
 University of Oregon (Honors)
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Portland
 University of Puget Sound
 University of Redlands
University of San Diego
 University of San Francisco
 University of Utah
 University of Vermont
 University of Washington, Seattle
University of Wisconsin, Madison
 Utah State University
 Washington State University
 Wesleyan University
 Western Colorado University
 Western Washington University
 Whittier College
Whitworth College
Willamette University

SNAPSHOT OF THE CLASS OF 2024

INDIVIDUAL SENIOR INTENSIVE

Each senior creates, develops and implements their own multi-week field intensive study. This capstone experience empowers students to create positive impacts on the world and to demonstrate what they are able to do, before going to college.

SNAPSHOT OF REAL WORLD PROBLEM SOLVING OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS

With over 100 days/nights in the field over the past four years, the class of 2024 is comfortable with change, uncertainty and traveling the world. Through dozens of stewardship and service-learning projects, our graduates understand how to do good for others and the environment. With over 300 hours spent working alongside industry experts from organizations like NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NOAA, California Department of Juvenile Justice, Universal Studios, Anti-Recidivism Coalition, and the Bureau of Land Management, our students have learned how to combat important issues in the world that are happening now. This world map previews a small selection of the real world problems and field study highlights experienced by students from the class of 2024.

GRIT, COMMUNITY AND SELF GROWTH: GRAND CANYON

During a backpacking trip that spanned 32 miles and 5,000 vertical feet, students learned about leadership, photography, geology, and climate change, but mostly they learned about ourselves.

SENIOR CAPSTONE STUDY: LONDON

Focusing on British literature and history, students discovered the wonders of the Tube in getting to historical sites, museums, and galleries as they took a deep dive into London's rich heritage.

CLIMATE CHANGE: COSTA RICA

Through a Spanish-language immersion combined with service work at a women-run coffee and chocolate farm, students learned about the economy, ecology, and culture of Costa Rica through authentic interactions with locals, guided expert tours, and reflective group conversations.

THE EVOLUTION AND OUTCOMES OF POWER STRUGGLES: MEXICO

After 10 days in Mexico, students analyzed and contrasted the historical experiences of ancient civilizations with those of indigenous peoples in North American history, examining their influence on contemporary realities on both sides of the border.

