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 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/night 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.
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

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

REAL-WORLD INTENSIVES & ELECTIVES

- Physics of Flight
- Renewable Energy
- Wild California
- A Life Aquatic - Underwater Submersibles
- Aventura Dominica
- Climbing the Sea-Level Staircase
- Let Food Be Thy Medicine
- Human-Animal Connection
- Digital Music
- Introduction to Film
- Fashion & Textiles
- Intro to Drawing and Painting
- Intro to 2D Media & Design Art
- Product Design I
- Design & Fabrication
- Intro to Computer Science
- Yearbook & Journalism
- Fitness
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Biomimicry
- Meteorology
- Sports Psychology
- Art & Science of Film
- Into the Wild

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.
SNAPSHOT OF THE CLASS OF 2023

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/night in the field over the past four years, the class of 2023 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 2023.

WHAT UNITES US: CHICAGO

After 10 days in Chicago, students walked away with a better understanding of power, privilege, and identity, and what an individual can do to make the world a little bit better.

CLIMATE CHANGE: MAINE

Examining how the Maine mountains and coastlines were sounding the alarm of a changing climate and how locals were addressing the arising problems on personal, organizational, and political levels.

IS RENEWABLE ENERGY WORTH THE PRICE? CHILE

Observing the struggles that arise between a country’s people and their fight to protect natural environments with governments and corporations who fight for scarce natural resources, land, sustainability with an ultimate goal of financial gains.

Tahoe Expedition Academy

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES 2017 - 2022

100% of our seniors who applied to college since 2017, were accepted to 4-year colleges/universities, earning over $4,336,360 in merit-based scholarships to date. Acceptances with bold listings are enrollments from 2017-2022:

[List of colleges and universities accepted by the seniors]