



## TIESS 1 Course Syllabus, 2016-17

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### Course Overview:

Welcome to TIESS 1! Students in TIESS 1 are imaginative individuals, sagacious students, fearless freshmen, and dedicated “drivers” on the path to success. *You* are the central force in this student-focused classroom. *You* will be held responsible for actively participating as well as making the decisions for your own learning paths. And *you* will have the freedom to explore strengths you never knew you had.

T.I.E.S.S. stands for Team Integrated English and Social Science. This is a two-year course (TIESS 1 during 9<sup>th</sup> grade and TIESS 2 during 10<sup>th</sup> grade) that integrates requirements for English and U.S. and World Studies. The course will focus on helping students meet Oregon standards in reading, writing, speaking and social science. TIESS is taught during a two-period block by social science and English teachers. The content studied is **organized into thematic units that explore key issues, both historical and current, in world and US history**. Each unit studied integrates social studies and English skills and content, and because the class is fully integrated, you will **earn the same grade** for English and US/World Studies I.

At the end of sophomore year, interested students can travel with us to the East Coast to **visit Washington D.C., Philadelphia, and New York**. This trip is optional and each year the cost is approximately \$2,700, which covers nearly all expenses. So start babysitting, dog-walking, frog-feeding, and car washing now!

### TIESS 1 (9<sup>th</sup> Grade) Course Summary

TIESS 1 students will be examining historical content and literature that centers around the importance of history (and how we make sense of the past), what it means to be an American, civics ideals and practices (including a public service project), global politics and power, business and government, the Industrial Revolution, the wartime economy of World War I and prosperity of post-WWI, and the Great Depression.

Social Science curriculum will include the analysis of important U.S. and world events from World War II through the 1970s. And English curriculum will include:

- Vocabulary development
- Reading strategies
- Literary terms / Elements of literature
- Analysis of novels, short stories, poems, and music
- Drama
- Public speaking and presentation skills
- PSAT and SAT preparation
- Grammar, mechanics, and usage
- Writing skills and proficiencies
- Research skills
- Proper use of MLA citations and plagiarism prevention
- Study habits, note-taking, and organization skills

### Grading:

In TIESS, we strive to prepare students for graduation and beyond. Students will earn a letter grade for their skill and performance in the class. Their letter grade will be determined by their performance in the following categories:

### Mastery of Learning Targets:

- 20% of their grade: Targeted Assignments (daily graded assignments, vocabulary, and/or homework)
- 30% of their grade: Tests and Quizzes (or skill checks)
- 50% of their grade: Performance Tasks (more information below)

## Performance Tasks

- Performance tasks are used so students can demonstrate their mastery of skills and concepts taught in TIESS.
- A variety of performance tasks will be used throughout the year. Some examples include: Socratic Seminars, projects, essays, presentations, speeches, etc.

## Essential Assignments

- Some of the Performance Tasks will be designated as “Essential Assignments.” Essential Assignments are tasks that students **MUST** complete and earn 70% or better on in order to pass the class.
  - For example, if a student is asked to write an essay and the essay is designated an Essential Assignment, the student would complete and submit the essay to the teacher by the due date. Then the teachers would grade the essay and return it to the student.
    - If the student scored lower than a 70% on the task, the student would be given two weeks to fix and resubmit the essay.
    - During that two-week period, students may need to fix and resubmit multiple times in order to reach a minimum of 70%.
    - If a student chooses not to rework the Essential Assignment and does not earn a 70% or better, he or she will not be awarded credit for the class.
  - Also remember, your teachers will not grade your Essential Assignments until they are complete. **We will not grade incomplete Essential Assignments and then give you more time to finish it.** That would be unfair to the other students who completed the task on the due date.
  - The highest possible grade for a reworked/resubmitted Essential Assignment is an 85% on that assignment.
  - **For Essential Writing Assignments:** Students must earn 4's or better on the 6-trait writing rubric to pass the essential writing assignment with a 70% or better.

## Learning Behaviors

In TIESS we focus on building skills and behaviors that will help all students be successful both academically and personally in the work force. While these areas are not directly graded, they are built into assignments or projects that are graded.

- Personal Management
- Your work habits and work ethics (for example: time management, initiative & organization, persistence, punctuality, accountability, problem solving and goal setting)
- Team Work
- Your ability to work cooperatively and respectfully, your participation, empathy, accountability, and communication during group assignments
- Precision
- Your dedication in creating accurate, high quality work

## Group Projects

In TIESS, students will often work in groups to complete small assignments as well as large projects. Collaboration and team work are essential to TIESS. Working with other students in small groups helps **develop higher order thinking skills like problem solving** (identifying a problem and working together to seek a solution). It also **teaches students personal management and team work**, and encourages students to work together to **create accurate, high quality work**. Collaboration also contributes directly to **improving their communication and presentation skills**. For these reasons students will work in many different groups throughout the year. We recognize that students sometimes struggle when working in small groups, but collaboration is a life skill that is essential for future success. A group project grade is made up of several components including both an individual student grade and an overall group grade.

## Support:

Regardless of how you prefer to communicate, please remember we are definitely here to help. So if you are ever feeling nervous or confused or, more likely, *pleased, thrilled, and inspired* by an assignment or grade, feel free to talk to us about it. We listen well.

*\*\* Please use Synergy regularly to check grades and look for messages from teachers. If you have any questions or difficulty accessing Synergy, contact Lisa VanSickle at 494-6312, or by email at [lisa.vansickle@district16.org](mailto:lisa.vansickle@district16.org).*

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

### TIESS 1 Classroom Procedures (“BE Safe, BE Responsible, BE Respectful”)

#### Absences:

If you know ahead of time that you will be absent, it is your responsibility to talk to the teacher and get your work before you leave. If you are sick or have an unplanned absence, see us as soon as you get back to get your make-up work. Turn absent work into the wall file for your period. Make sure to write **ABSENT** and the dates absent at the top of the assignment before turning it into the wall file. **DO NOT HAND US ABSENT OR LATE PAPERS!**

#### Tardies:

Please be in the room and headed to your seat when the bell rings. If another teacher needs to keep you late please ask for a pass to class. After your third tardy, you will receive a verbal or written warning reminding you to get to class and your seat on time. After the fourth tardy a referral will be written and detentions will be assigned. Subsequent tardies can result in detentions, in-school suspension, etc.

#### Expectations:

##### Break Time –

For every two-period block we will have a break in the middle. The benefit of the block is that we do not have to stop during the passing period, so the learning can continue and break at a logical place. We will always take a break. Do not ask when it will be.

Please remember that other classes may be going on in the hallway. Be respectful and do not visit with other classes. No visits to the soda machine during break are allowed. This is your official bathroom break. You do not need a pass during this time - please just go and come back promptly.

##### Cell Phones –

Cell phones must be turned off or on silent during class time to avoid disruption. Your phone may be visible on your desk, but must be turned over. If a phone is being used for an inappropriate purpose, you will be given a warning and an opportunity to put it away. If the problem persists, your phone will be placed in a secure drawer until the end of the TIESS class. If the problem persists, further disciplinary action may be taken.

##### Etiquette –

- No trash left on the floor.
- Drinks are permissible if they have a screw lid or drip proof lid. No soda cans or non-closable drinks.
- Eating is also permissible, but limited to non-smelly and non-messy foods to respect your teachers and peers. We retain the right to deny food at any time.
- Grooming is to be done before school. You look wonderful already!
- No perfume, body spray, deodorant or cologne may be sprayed in the classroom or near the door.
- Stay in your seat until you are dismissed. There will be no lining up at the door. You are not dismissed until we let you go.
- Please come prepared for class. If you are in need of classroom materials, please ask your classmates first. If no spare materials are found, speak to Mr. Epperson or Mrs. Oppenheim (whoever is not currently teaching). Be aware that classroom materials (pens, pencils, binders, paper, etc.) can be provided by Mrs. Cook on a case-by-case basis.
- Be proud of what you turn in.
- Keep everything in your binder through the semester. Specific items will be chosen for your portfolio and we'll clean out binders at the end of the semester. Never throw anything away until you check grades in PowerSchool.
- To correct non-final drafts or daily assignments, cross out with one single line. Mistakes are a part of learning; feel free to make mistakes but correct them legibly and neatly.
- When class ends, wait until we dismiss you to leave the room. We expect that everyone is in their seats, that the room is picked up, and that we have finished talking before we will dismiss class.

#### Test Make-up and Retakes:

- If you are absent on the day of a test, you should come in and take the test within a week of the absence.
- You cannot make-up or retake a test during class time.
- You can retake a test **ONLY IF** you (1.) complete ALL of the Skill Practice Assignments for that unit and (2.) you actually tried to pass the first test and did not leave big sections or portions of the test blank.
- You must schedule a time to retake the test with the teacher.
- All retakes must be completed before the Hard Deadline of the unit has occurred.

## Hard Deadlines

- Each unit will have a Hard Deadline attached to it. That is the last possible day to turn in or make-up missing work for that unit. Once the deadline has passed, work from the past units will no longer be accepted.
- **Hard deadlines will be set for one week after the end of a unit.**

## Late Work Policy

- Assignments must be turned in when called for and collected each day.
- If they are not in the teachers' hands during the collection of papers, the assignment is late.
- Late work is worth up to 70%, **IF** the work is well done.
- Late work can be turned up to the hard deadline of a unit.
- **Once the unit's hard deadline has passed, no late work will be accepted.**
- Turn all absent or late work into the wall folder.

**DO NOT PUT YOUR LATE PAPERS ON OUR DESKS OR IN OUR HANDS!**

## Exceptions to Late Work Policy

- Because ESSENTIAL ASSIGNMENTS must earn a 70% or better in order for the student to pass the class, students may be given up to two weeks to rework and resubmit.
- The highest grade possible for a resubmitted Essential Assignment is an 85%.

## Incomplete Assignments

- Assignments that are turned in incomplete will be passed back to the student for completion.
- The revised assignment will need to be resubmitted to the wall file for your class period and will be scored following the late work policy above (cannot earn better than a C on the assignment).

## No Name Papers

- Papers turned in without a name will be placed in the "No Name" wall file in class. If you find one of your papers there and resubmit it with your name on it, the assignment will be scored following the late work policy (cannot earn better than a C on it).

## Plagiarism

- Plagiarism is using other people's ideas and/or writing without giving credit. This is cheating. For a first offense, the consequence will be a grade of zero for the assignment, and in addition the semester grade in that class may be lowered one letter grade.
- Additional offenses in any classes or in any future year at Crater High may result in consequences up to and including removal from class and loss of credit.

## Honors Credit (previously called Pre AP):

Students need to challenge themselves starting in 9<sup>th</sup> grade if they want to be ready for the rigors of college. CAHPS offers a variety of college prep courses designed to prepare students for life after high school. In TIESS we do this by offering Honors credit to interested students. **The Honors program is an option and not a requirement.**

Our Honors program is designed to push students toward a more analytical & in-depth study of specified content. This doesn't always mean just assigning them a larger workload. Major activities, assignments, projects, and tests will be modified to better challenge the Honors students. That means that all students will be responsible for certain parts of the curriculum but other parts will be substituted with Honors course work. It is the student's responsibility to look for Honors portions on the assignments and the tests and to complete them.

In TIESS, students have the option of earning Honors credit for English and social science; however, because the program is fully integrated, students must commit to doing Honors work in both subject areas in order to have Honors English and Honors US/World Studies on their transcripts.

One example of an Honors requirement is our Book Talk group. All Honors students will participate in discussions about a specific book. The discussions might be organized in a Socratic Seminar or Literature Circle format. Honor students will be assigned a group novel or non-fiction book that they will need to read, in addition to any book we are reading as a whole class. The Book Talk book can be used in place of an SSR (Silent Sustained Reading) book.

If you are interested in Honors credit, please sign and complete the Honors side of the contract (at the end of this syllabus) and return it to your teachers as soon as possible. Remember, **you must commit to a full trimester of Honors credit.** If at the end of a trimester we (parents/teachers/student) determine Honors credit is not the right choice for a student, changes can be made.

**ALL STUDENTS/PARENTS PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN**

**TIESS 1 SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

**Note:** Please read this syllabus carefully and sign it, have your parents/guardians read it and sign it, and **return this portion to me by Friday September 16<sup>th</sup>**. Be sure to place the rest of your syllabus into your interactive notebook/binder for TIESS 1.

I have read and understand the course expectations and policies:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Print Student Name Neatly*

*Student Signature*

You, your daughter/son, and I are partners in your students' education. You can help him/her succeed by checking with them as often as possible about their progress and logging into Synergy. Please also plan on attending parent/student teacher conferences October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Contact us any time with questions or concerns. Email is the easiest and quickest form of communication for us.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Parent/Guardian Name (Print)*

*Parent/Guardian Signature*

*Parent/Guardian Email – please print neatly* \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone Number(s) to reach you

First preference: \_\_\_\_\_

## HONORS Student and Parent/Guardian Contract

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*ONLY IF YOU WANT HONORS CREDIT, Please Return This Page to Class*

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By signing this contract, you are stating that you have read and understand the HONORS credit requirements, and that you agree to uphold them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
TIESS Periods

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**\*\*We recommend that all HONORS students purchase their own copy of the Book Talk books we will read. This allows them to mark up the book the way a college student would do. Students can check the book out from the library, but it is extremely helpful to be able to own a copy and mark in the book.**

If you have any questions regarding our program, HONORS expectations, please contact us by email [David.Epperson@district6.org](mailto:David.Epperson@district6.org) or [Karen.Oppenheim@district6.org](mailto:Karen.Oppenheim@district6.org) or by phone 541-494-6250.