

**Any further information needed please contact
Taos High School Counseling Offices.**

**Casey Tonrey: Dean of Students/ 9th Grade (N-Z)
and 11th Grade Counselor
575-751-8017**

**Emy DeHerrera: Dean of Students/ Testing Site
Coordinator/AVID Site Coordinator/ IEP Counselor
575-751-8022**

**Monica Romero: 12th Grade
Counselor 575-751-6025**

**Necia Ethridge: 9th Grade (A-Z) and
10th Grade Counselor
575-751-8019**

**Danielle Mares: Counseling Secretary
575-751-8018**

**Taos High School Front Office:
575-751-8000**

**Taos High School Principal:
Cynthia Jane (CJ) Grace
575-751-8002**

**Taos High School Assistant Principal:
Lisa Abeyta-Valerio
575-751-8026**

ELECTIVES CONTINUED...

MARIACHI I: (Prerequisite): 1-year prior instrument experience. No prerequisite for students taking violin). Students entering Mariachi Instrument II, or III will be expected to work on ensemble sections with students at the beginning level, as well as continue at a more advanced level of study in musical notation at a higher level of skill and technique.

METAL FABRICATION I (UNM Dual Credit): This course is designed to acquaint the student with metal and wood sculpture, art, furniture, machinery and other aspects of modern technology. Students will learn about the use of metals and wood in constructing useable products.

MULTIMEDIA: A combination of Graphics/Animation/Video/Web Design.

POETRY: This class provides an overview of contemporary poetry, and principles of poetics and performance. Students will do a short presentation to the class each semester on a poet, will write about 15 poems each semester and will compile a portfolio.

PORTRAITURE & STILL LIFE (UNM Dual Credit): Fall Semester- Portraiture: Heads, Features and Faces. This course will delve into the basic principles and techniques of drawing using the human head as its subject. Spring Semester—Cast Drawing and Still Life-Observational Drawing. This drawing course will provide an introduction into the basic principles and techniques of drawing.

***PRINCIPALS OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE:** Students explore concepts of biology and medicine to determine factors that led to the death of a fictional person. While investigating the case, students examine autopsy reports, investigate medical history, and explore medical treatments that might have prolonged the person's life. The activities and projects introduce students to human physiology, basic biology, medicine, and research processes while allowing them to design their own experiments to solve problems.

PROFESSIONAL BAKING (UNM Dual Credit): If you are interested in the basic knowledge and science to produce baked goods, this course is a must. Skills and instruction include the food lab experience to gain understanding of ingredients, etc. Students are expected to participate in learning opportunities beyond the normal school day to prepare and serve special dinners or for extended instructional sessions. Lab fee.

SPANISH I: This course introduces the student to Spanish culture via geography, cuisine, drama, song, dance basic, vocabulary, expressions, grammar, composition and reading. A strong emphasis will be placed on oral participation.

SPANISH FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS LEVEL I: Designed for heritage learners of Spanish, this course can accommodate students from a wide range of backgrounds, from those who are minimally functional (can comprehend Spanish but are not able to speak fluently, read or write) to those who are more proficient and/or literate in Spanish. The recommended entrance requirement for the Spanish for Native Speakers I is knowledge of Spanish from home or having participated four or more years in an elementary dual language program. This course focuses on the development of communicative competence in reading, writing, speaking and listening and viewing, as well as on understanding Hispanic cultures and issues of identity of heritage speakers of Spanish in the United States and Spanish-speaking countries. Students will also develop an awareness and understanding of Hispanic cultures, including language variation, customs, geography, history, and current events.

SPEECH & DEBATE I: This class focuses on speech and debate competitions in which students are expected to participate. Students can select from over ten individual events and three debate or duo events. Students will use class time to prepare, research, practice and present their chosen events. Application required for placement in this class.

TEACHER ASSISTING (Educators Rising): This course introduces the principles underlying teaching and learning, the responsibilities and duties of teachers, and the techniques of imparting knowledge and information. Students will focus on the Educators Rising Standards 1-4: 1) Understanding the Profession, 2) Learning about Students, 3) Building Content Knowledge, and 4) Engaging in Responsive Planning. Teacher Academy courses are often accompanied by opportunities to observe and intern in preschool, elementary and middle school classrooms.

WOODWORKING I (UNM Dual Credit): Course will be presented in the context of a modern industrial program. It will teach students about the woodworking industry, including sources of lumber, how lumber is made into plywood and other materials. It will also teach students how to design, plan and carry through a project. The student will learn a basic knowledge of hand skills with tools and how to work safely with the tools and materials to protect themselves from accidents.

YEARBOOK (UNM Dual Credit) Suggested Prerequisite: Computer Applications: Desktop Publishing will be taught using Microsoft Office and other Desktop Publishing Software.

YES I CAN: This is an inclusion class which follows a research-based social skills curriculum.

*SCIENCE ELECTIVE (Does not count as Science Credit)

Por favor llame a 751-6025 o si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a esta información.



TAOS HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2021-2022

Graduation Requirements for

9th Graders

Class of 2025

English = 4 Credits

Math = 4 Credits

Science = 3 Credits (2 w/lab)

Social Science = 3.5 Credits

Physical Education = 1 Credit

Health = .50 Credit

Career Cluster, Workplace Readiness or
Foreign Language = 1 Credit

AP C, Dual Credit, Honors, or Distance
Learning = 1 Credit

Electives = 6 Credits

Classes 1 yearlong = 1 Full Credit



COURSE DESCRIPTION

REQUIRED COURSES:

ENGLISH I: Serves as an introduction to Language Arts at the high school level. Students will explore literature and begin to learn to write various kinds of essays. The course builds upon the student’s prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage and mechanics of writing. The various genres of literature are introduced and defined, with writing exercises linked to reading selections.

ENGLISH I HONORS: Serves as an introduction to the Honors English program at THS. Students are introduced to the requirements of a college preparation program which includes close reading of literature and the writing of various types of essays. The course builds upon the student’s prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage and mechanics of writing. Students will begin to produce analytical papers around their outside reading.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) I-IV: ESL classes are designed to transition non-native speakers to the world of English. Emphasis in the classes will be on both personal and academic communication and on the skills necessary to function in an English-speaking world. This class serves as an English credit.

ALGEBRA I: This course will study properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; polynomial operations; exponents and radicals; and solving simple quadratic equations.

MATH READY: This course is a supplemental course to Algebra I during the 9th grade year. This course is designed to provide additional grade level material, intervention, and enhancement to reach students at all levels of skill. This class will test your fundamental math skills in a way that still focuses on the big picture which is for us to be actively learning and building success in Algebra I. Students will work on math skills based on their Discovery, PARCC, EOC’s and in-class scores. These scores will be used to assist the students in closing the learning gap by targeting those skills that they scored below average on. Our goal is to make sure you see examples that will help you progress in all exams including the ACT and SAT.

GEOMETRY: This course covers topics such as properties of figures; geometry as an axiomatic system, rules of congruence, similarity, parallelism, and perpendicularity; and rules of angle measurement. Transformations, circles, and area and volume formulas will also be covered. Students must have passed the THS Algebra 1 final in order to receive credit in Algebra 1 and qualify to take Geometry.

BIOLOGY 9th GRADE: This course integrates the contents of Chemistry, Physics, Biology and Earth Science. It includes the physical properties of matter, classification of matter, laws of motion and mechanics and discusses how stars form, solar system and the Big Bang Theory. Cell Theory, Genetics, Inheritance, Evolution and Energy Processing will be covered. Throughout the course, scientific process skills and problem solving in the class and laboratory will be emphasized. Career information and current events in science will be discussed.

NEW MEXICO HISTORY (1 Semester = .50 Credit): This is a semester long survey course of the political, economic, social, cultural and geographical features of NM with an emphasis on the 20th century to the present.

HEALTH (1 Semester = .50 Credit): Course topics may vary widely, but typically include: Community health, consumer health, disease prevention and control, environmental health, injury prevention and safety, mental and emotional health, nutrition, personal health, physical and social development, HIV-AIDS, and substance use and abuse.

FRESHMAN FITNESS: This course will allow students to demonstrate competent skills in a variety of physical activities including team sport and physical fitness as well as study key concepts in the health curriculum. Students will also demonstrate the knowledge of factors important to participation in physical activity and develop responsibility in the areas of sportsmanship, cooperation, safety, respect proper use and care of equipment, punctuality and attendance.

ELECTIVES:

ANCIENT MYTHOLOGY: Students will study Ancient Greek, Roman, and Norse mythologies that have greatly influenced American art, music, and film. Students will keep a notebook, complete projects, and pass quizzes and tests as a part of the course.

ARTISTIC ANATOMY (UNM Dual Credit): This drawing course will provide an introduction into the basic principles and techniques of drawing along with an overview of artistic anatomy. Fall Semester: Human. Spring Semester: Animal

AVID (ADVANCED VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION): The AVID course is an elective class for students who are college-bound. The AVID curriculum focuses on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading (WICOR) through the AVID High School curriculum in both teacher and tutor-led activities. Note-taking, outlining, writing, speaking, reading, test-taking strategies, and self-awareness are stressed. In addition, the course includes college motivational activities and intensive preparation for ACT and SAT tests.

BAND I: In this class, the student’s fundamental instrumental skills will be solidified. The student should have basic knowledge of musical terminology and proper application. Some knowledge of solo and ensemble repertoire is helpful. Rhythm patterns and note values will be emphasized as will sight reading development.

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA): This two-semester class will include instruction in human anatomy and physiology, basic nursing assistant skills, medical terminology, safety, ethical and legal responsibilities. Students will earn CPR and First Aid certification.

CHORUS: Teaching and rehearsals focus on the fundamentals of singing, music theory, music reading, part-singing, and performance techniques. Diverse music literature is studied, representing many styles, languages and cultures. The choir performs in regular concerts and community events.

***CLEAN ENERGY SYSTEMS:** This course exposes students to three sources of renewable energy: wind, solar and biofuels. Working with solar, thermal, chemical and mechanical sources of clean energy teaches students how to apply physics, geography, chemistry, biology, geometry, algebra and engineering fundamentals. Students learn the most efficient and appropriate use of energy production as they explore the relevant relationships among work, power and energy. Students will engage in a wide variety of hands on projects and lab activities that both test their knowledge and illustrate the interrelationships between the various forms of clean energy.

COMPUTER ANIMATION (UNM Dual Credit) Suggested Prerequisite: Desktop Publishing and/or Computer Applications, art or an affinity for art and computers. In the first semester, this class will cover fundamental techniques of computer animation and multimedia. Students will learn both basic theory and implementation through a combination of lectures, research, and hands on projects in animation and multimedia.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (UNM Dual Credit): Computer applications is an overview of computer hardware, software, and the windows environment. You will cover basic computer operating principles, file management, using the Internet, along with an introduction to word processor, spreadsheets, and multimedia presentation programs.

COMPUTER GRAPHICS (UNM Dual Credit): This course will enable students to author, edit, debug, evaluate and publish web pages on a server. The basics of planning and creating Web Pages, using text editors and HTML editors, selecting and adding images, choosing background colors, creating active internal and external links, adding lists and testing pages created are also covered.

COMPTER SCIENCE PROGRAMMING (UNM Dual Credit): Fundamentals will begin exploring the concepts of how computers work, how information is stored in memory, and how stored programs allow the user to control the machine. The history of computing and programming will also be covered. This course examines some of the fundamental ideas of the science of computing. Lectures and hands-on assignments cover a wide variety of topics such as hardware, software, the internet, graphics, computer modeling & computer programming.

CREATIVE MEDIA (UNM Dual Credit): Allows students to explore all manners of expression, that may include many artistic elements. Students will combine at least three forms of expression into a theme of their choosing to present as the semester exam. Depending on areas of student interest, students may be requested to bring their own equipment or supplies; for example: musical instruments, cameras, paints, etc.

CULINARY PRO-START I (UNM Dual Credit): If you are interested in exploring a career as a professional cook or chef, hospitality or restaurant industry, you’ll really enjoy this class. Students are expected to participate in learning opportunities beyond the normal school day to prepare and serve special dinners for extended instructional sessions. Lab Fee.

DRAFT/CAD I (COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING & DESIGN) (UNM Dual Credit): Course introduces students to the technical craft of drawing illustrations to represent and/or analyze design specifications, and then refine the skills necessary for this craft. Course use exercises from a variety of applications to provide students with the knowledge and experience to develop the ability to perform freehand sketching, lettering, geometric construction, multi-view projections, and to produce various types of drawings (working, detail, assembly, schematic, perspective, and so on). Computer aided drafting (CAD) systems (if available) are typically introduced and used to fulfill course objectives.

DRAMA (UNM Dual Credit): It is the philosophy of the drama department to teach the fundamentals of performance through production. In the first year, students need to learn the fundamentals of performance, emphasizing control of the body and voice. Students will participate in exercises during class, in scene work and in improvisation. Students will also study basic theatre history and read selected plays. Students will receive information on the many aspects of the theatre. Students are encouraged to try out for a role in the major school production and will be required to contribute to the production.

***FORENSIC SCIENCE:** The foundation of forensic science in basic science and mathematics and introducing the technique of integrating these areas in the determination of the cause of death. The philosophical, rational and practical framework that supports a forensic investigation will be presented via an integrated curriculum. Students will study forensic anthropology, biochemistry, chemistry, botany, entomology and physics as well as problem solving techniques utilized in analyzing a crime scene. Other topics include ballistics, autopsies, mass disasters, epidemiology of environmental disasters, biological weapons as well as toxicology, microbiology, and pathology, and engineering design.

FRENCH I (UNM Dual Credit): This class is an intensive introduction to French grammar, vocabulary and conversation. It is the beginning foundation for French II, reading French literature and extensive conversation.

GIUITAR: This course is for students interested in learning the basic guitar fundamentals. The course is designed to give the student a basic background in music theory, musical notation, styles and skill development. Students work independently. This individualized instruction allows students to select specific styles of music such as classical, mariachi or learn to sing with self-accompaniment

***HEALTH EXPLORATIONS:** Course usually offered as a series to provide orientation to, and refinement of, the knowledge and skills germane to the health care industry. Topics usually include (but are not limited to) an overview of health care delivery; patient care, including assessment of vital signs, body mechanics, and diet; anatomy and physiology; identification and use of medical equipment and supplies; medical terminology; hygiene and disease prevention; first aid and CPR procedures; laboratory procedures; and ethical and legal responsibilities. Clinical experiences in local health care settings are integral to the courses

HISTORY OF FILM: This class will watch great - and near great - films and explore the elements that make them great. These include acting, directing, editing, cinematography, screen play, and music. We will also dissect popular media and culture with the goal of becoming more sophisticated citizens.

HUMAN CHILD DEVELOPMENT (UNM Dual Credit): This class topic includes the development of the child from conception to school age. Pregnancy, parenting skills, safe environment and knowledge to enhance child development are included. Also included are topics covering exercise, nutrition and overall health and wellness topics. Lab Fee.

INTRO TO AVIATION: Course provides an understanding of the science of flight and typically includes the history, regulations, and possible career paths within the aviation industry. Physics, the relationships of weight and balance, principles of navigation and flight control, airport operations and services, and Federal Aviation Agency regulations.

INTRO TO BUSINESS (UNM Dual Credit): This program offers a foundation to develop business knowledge and skills. Students will receive an introduction to the world of business.

***LANDSCAPING:** Introduction to landscape design, construction, and maintenance. Irrigation systems for the landscape, including water conservation and use, and xeriscape for plants. Drawing instruments and symbols used in designing the landscape plan, identification and selection of landscape ground covers, shrubs, trees, and other construction materials. Cost estimates and landscaped proposals are also covered in this course.