

**Tecumseh High School**  
**COURSE SELECTION GUIDE**  
**2018-19**



**Link to the 2018-19 Master Schedule:**

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=11XxWnTqV4H-45y\\_5dFDAqNylwBExmDZ5d8yzDb8JdKw](https://drive.google.com/open?id=11XxWnTqV4H-45y_5dFDAqNylwBExmDZ5d8yzDb8JdKw)

## **TECUMSEH PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT**

We are uncompromisingly learner centered.

## **TECUMSEH PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT VISION STATEMENT**

We are a dynamic learning community taking **BOLD** steps to ensure all learners are inspired and empowered for life.

Tecumseh High School  
760 North Brown Street  
Tecumseh, MI 49286  
(517) 423-6008

TECUMSEH PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures contact JoAnna Keebler, Director of Human Resources Title VI, Title IX, and ADA Coordinator at the Board Office.

### **FOREWORD**

This guide has been prepared for use by learners and parents/guardians in deciding which courses are best suited to the learner's goals, interests, aptitudes, and abilities. A flexible curriculum has been constructed which permits learners to select courses to meet their individual needs.

Learner's choices may determine their chances for success in future years; therefore, learners are urged to select courses with the greatest of care. This important educational matter should be thoroughly discussed with parents/guardians. For more information concerning course selection, college admissions, and requirements, or employment demands, learners and parents/guardians should arrange to consult with a school counselor.

This guide is approved by the Tecumseh Public School District Board of School Directors; its contents are therefore approved district procedures.

### **ACCREDITATION**

Tecumseh High School is accredited by the NCA.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**2018 - 2019**

**Mr. Griff E. Mills**, Principal

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**Dear Tecumseh High School Learners and Families:**

The faculty, staff, and administrators of Tecumseh High School are committed to ensuring each learner has access to the resources needed to achieve his or her full potential. Additionally, Tecumseh High School is committed to providing customized educational experiences to foster a culture of innovation and discovery. Individual needs are addressed through an array of opportunities that promote the learner's academic, social, and emotional development. Through a rigorous and relevant curriculum, the integration of technology, and a focus on our exit learner outcomes, learners will graduate ready to compete in the global economy.

We believe that Mass Customized Learning prepares learners for their futures by providing learners with voice and choice in their education because we know learners learn at different rates and in different styles; we also know that technology changes the rules of how/when we can learn. Through our continued development of flexible systems and opportunities, learners have the ability to develop the skills required for their desired futures.

Tecumseh High School programming also plays a key role in offering learners access to educational opportunities during their high school years. As we transform our structures and programming throughout the coming years, we will continue to connect and reinforce learner learning to real world experiences. One of our goals is to foster an environment that raises learner awareness of possible post-secondary opportunities in higher education, the armed forces, or the workforce. We also desire to prepare learners with skills that will be transferable to their post-secondary endeavors.

The Mission of Tecumseh Public Schools is to be uncompromisingly learner centered. We recognize that additional guidance may be needed along the way. This Course Selection Guide provides information designed to help learners and parents create an effective plan for success in high school and beyond.

Sincerely,

Griff E. Mills

Griff E. Mills  
Principal  
Tecumseh High School

**PROGRAMS OF STUDY**

The worlds of post-secondary education, the military, and work are rapidly changing and as these areas continue to change, the demands for a rigorous and relevant education infused with exposure to technological advances is essential. Learners must acquire increased academic competencies, advanced technical skills, and greater problem-solving skills to become successful learners, citizens, and workers of the future. The program of study at Tecumseh High School includes challenging academic and skill oriented courses that provide learners the opportunity to transition from high school directly into a college or university, technical or trade school, the military, or the world of work.

As learners progress through high school, they select courses that will provide both the focus and the structure necessary to develop a four-year educational plan that will maximize postsecondary opportunities and success for all learners.

The post-secondary and career planning experience is designed to enhance the learner's high school program and future opportunities. Learners are encouraged to meet with their school counselor throughout high school to review progress made toward achieving their educational and career goals and to further refine those goals. Other opportunities are offered through the Lenawee Tech Center, distance learning, job shadowing, internships, and college courses. Learners and parents should study course sequences carefully and use them as guides for high school course selection and post-secondary planning.

NOTE: Any changes or inaccuracies in this Course Selection Guide does not bind the Tecumseh Public School District from operating outside of the approved administrative regulations, grading practices, and/or graduation requirements.

## **About Tecumseh High School**

### **Our Building**

Tecumseh High School is the newest building in the district. THS opened on August 26, 2001. The school's design is based on a compact, clearly-organized floor plan that encourages learner and faculty interaction, flexibility and future expansion options. A wide central corridor connects three two-story classroom modules to the support spaces that include the administrative and counseling offices, media center, cafetorium (seating capacity of 800), gymnasium (seating capacity of 2,000), fitness center, performing arts, applied technology, and art studios. The school covers approximately 212,000 square feet with an optimal capacity of 1,100 learners.

### **Our Faculty**

Tecumseh High School is staffed by a core of experienced learning facilitators working in concert with new educators. Over 70 percent of our teaching staff members currently hold a Master's Degree with several more working toward their completion. Our learning facilitators are dedicated to learner success and are eager to implement new teaching and learning strategies that will support the curricular objectives of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and the Common Core State Standards.

### **Our Curriculum**

Like all public high schools in Michigan, THS follows the state-mandated Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC). The MMC sets minimum standards for approximately 18 credits of high school coursework in seven subject areas. Within those requirements, Tecumseh High School learners will earn credits and gain skills to meet college and career entrance requirements and seize opportunities to pursue their future career interests.

### **Our School**

Tecumseh High School distinguishes itself from other high schools through its curriculum expectations. You will find high standards and benchmarks, required courses and graduation requirements, grading and reporting guidelines and procedures, opportunities for extracurricular activities, and teaching and learning strategies. Staff members in our school collaborate to provide a quality education with common expectations for all learners.

### **Our learners**

Tecumseh High School, Tecumseh Middle College, Tecumseh Virtual Academy, and our Seat Time Waiver program are made up of approximately 1,000 learners. The learner body is made up of learners who excel in many areas of life during the regular academic day as well as after school.

### **Credits and Class Placement**

High School Credit learners have the opportunity to earn 1/2 credit per course, per semester, for a total of 3 credits each semester and 6 credits each year. Up to 24 credits may be earned in 4 years. \*The number of credits that you earn determines whether you graduate on time.

### **Class Placement**

Class designation is based on the number of years that a learner has been in high school. Year 1: Freshman Year 2: Sophomore Year 3: Junior Year 4: Senior\*. In order to assure that you are on schedule to graduate in four years with the required number credits, it is important that you monitor your progress each year so that you meet your goal. Learners who earn less than the minimum number of credits must register for additional credits outside the traditional school schedule in order to catch up. These credit recovery choices often include one or both of the following: Summer School and/or transferring to Tecumseh Virtual Academy.

### **High School Credits Earned in Middle School**

There are currently several courses offered at the middle school that count toward a learner's high school transcript and graduation requirements (Algebra I, Geometry, and French or Spanish). These courses taken and successfully completed in middle school will be recorded on the learner's transcript with the name of the course, the grade, and credit; Also, the grades are factored into the learner's Grade Point Average (GPA).

### **Taking Greater than 6 credits per year**

Learners interested in enrichment, early graduation, and/or credit recovery are able to take more than six (6) credits per school year. We encourage learners to discuss this possibility with their parents/guardians to ensure that taking this increased course load will not be overwhelming for the learner. All credits earned will be added to the learner's transcript and all graded courses will be factored into a learner's GPA (Please review grading and course weighting criteria for each type of course).

**NOTE:** This procedure will make it possible for learners to graduate in 3 years. Tecumseh High School recommends that learners interested in taking advantage of this consult with their parents/guardians and school counselor to ensure this is in their best interest. Learners must declare their desire to graduate early to ensure all procedures and materials are secured in order to be included in the graduation ceremony

### **Course Withdrawal Policy**

Tecumseh High School encourages all learners to continuously challenge themselves to reach their full academic potential. Tecumseh High School offers courses which are rigorous and

provide the opportunity to learn not only an in-depth curriculum, but also the work/study habits and time management skills that learners will need throughout their life. Throughout each semester, Tecumseh High School provides several opportunities for learners to obtain additional assistance if they do not understand a particular concept or require help. Those opportunities include learning facilitator assistance during, before, or after each school day, peer tutoring, or designated days during Mentorship. We recommend that struggling learners frequently communicate with the learning facilitator, learn how to adapt to various teaching styles, and commit additional time when needed. Once we begin the school year, learners will be expected to continue with their decisions and make a commitment to be successful in the courses they selected.

### **Guidelines for 4 Year College Preparation**

The learner who is preparing for college admission is faced with a wide variety of admission requirements; therefore, it is wise to prepare for the most demanding of these standards. In addition to four credits of language arts, social studies, mathematics, and science required for graduation from THS, learners are encouraged to take two to four credits of a world language. Learners planning to participate in a NCAA athletics program in college must have passed at least sixteen NCAA approved core academic courses in high school for Division I or Division II athletics. These learners must also meet minimum GPA and SAT requirements. Please reference our courses that are approved by NCAA, which can be found on their website. Please see your school counselor for the details. NOTE: Colleges, technical schools, and employers are constantly changing their admission/employment requirements. Learners are encouraged to check with the post-secondary schools they are interested in to ensure clear understanding of their requirements for admissions and what credits earned in high school will transfer. Regardless of the recommendations and guidelines above, learners should check the specific requirements for their academy. It is the learner's responsibility to ensure that all requirements are in order for graduation.

### **Class Schedules**

Learners are required to enroll in six (6) classes. The school day contains six class periods. The learner's lunch period is assigned according to their fourth hour learning facilitator. Provisions for a reduced-day schedule may be made in a few exceptional cases, or for seniors who qualify to participate in college credit programs. Reduced schedules must be approved by the learner's parents, counselor, and the administration.

### **How to have a successful freshman year:**

1. Manage time wisely. Learn to manage your time for academics, extracurricular activities, and social life appropriately.
2. Advocate for yourself. If you are having a problem academically or socially, communicate this to your learning facilitator or school counselor so that they can help you.

3. Work to improve study skills, such as reading strategies, note-taking skills, preparing for a test, etc. If you are having difficulty with your courses, sign up for peer tutoring services, attend your learning facilitator or stay after school for remediation with your classroom learning facilitator.
4. Be goal oriented—set and revisit short and long-term goals.
5. Visit the Career Center to learn more about career opportunities.
6. Check each learning facilitator's website for valuable links, important handouts, and an overview of the current unit.
7. Check grades regularly and make arrangements to complete missing work.
8. Utilize all available resources, not just the obvious ones.

### **Procedures for testing out of a course**

Any learner interested in testing out of a course in order to change their next course placement must follow the approved Tecumseh High School procedure. Testing out of a course is solely for course placement and learners will not receive credit nor will the course be added to the learner's transcript. Use of online resources and tutoring to prepare for the assessment, though encouraged, does not constitute course completion; therefore, credit will not be awarded.

### **Testing Dates:**

Learners interested in testing out of a course must contact their assigned school counselor to schedule the assessment. Testing must be completed by fall deadline for the subsequent course to be taken in the spring semester of the same school year or by the spring deadline for the subsequent course to be taken in the next school year. No testing will occur over the summer break.

### **Procedure:**

1. The learner schedules the assessment date with their school counselor in accordance with the testing out deadlines.
2. The learner takes the assessment (course final exam).
3. An assigned learning facilitator will grade the assessment and return the results to the school counselor. A score of 78.5% or greater is required to pass the assessment and test out of the course.
4. The learner will be notified of the results by the school counselor and will be provided assistance in scheduling whatever course is needed.

## **Learner-Parent/Guardian-School Communication**

At Tecumseh High School, we believe in the importance of the communication process with all stakeholders. We believe our process allows for the most efficient and effective way of handling most concerns. Our process begins at learner/learning facilitator level. Our high school learners need to begin to understand that if they are having difficulties in a particular class, they need to advocate for themselves by having consistent conversations with the learning facilitator. If a learner would feel more comfortable having his/her counselor help facilitate this conversation, the learner should work with the counselor to assist in setting a meeting with the learning facilitator. Additionally, parents/guardians should contact learning facilitators directly when questions arise about a concern with their child's progress. When a learner or parent does not feel their concern has been addressed by a learning facilitator, the next step of the process would be to involve the child's school counselor. Typically, the school counselor would set up a meeting with the learning facilitator, parent, and learner so the concerns can be addressed. As appropriate, the learner's grade level administrator could be involved in this meeting. If a common understanding cannot be reached in the previous outlined steps, the child's grade level administrator or another building administrator should be contacted. As always, in any professional setting, we strongly believe that any communication is uniformly respectful and allows each party the opportunity to share his/her perspective.

### Summary of Communication Process:

Step 1: Learner communicates with Learning facilitator

Step 2 if desired: Learner communicates with Learning facilitator and Counselor

Step 3 if issue is still not addressed satisfactorily: Learner communicates with Learning facilitator, Counselor, and Parent

Step 4 if necessary: Learner communicates with Learning facilitator, Counselor, Parent, and Administrator

## **Enhanced Learning Opportunities**

Tecumseh High School offers a variety of enhanced learning opportunities to meet the needs of our learners. In general, these opportunities allow learners to accelerate their learning, study unique subjects, recover credit, and/or learn in the most appropriate environment. Enhanced learning is often part of the traditional school day, however, some learners may be eligible to take classes after school, in the evening, at college campuses or at home.



## **Middle College at THS**

### **What is a Middle College?**

- Collaboration between an intermediate or high school district, and a college/university that results in a high school diploma and upward to an associate's degree
- Integration into the college, with faculty and learners sharing educational resources
- Designed to meet the needs of learners who may perform better in a non-traditional learning environment
- May be career focused (technical/occupational)

### **Who does a Middle College serve?**

Middle college is targeted to learners who are statistically underrepresented in higher education and for whom society often has low aspirations for academic achievement. Early college schools demystify college by providing high school learners with structured and regular experiences that expose academic and cultural requirements of college.

**If you are interested in the Middle College at THS please see Mr. Dolson or Mrs. Morgan.**

## **Online Learning**

The benefits of online learning include expanding the curriculum offerings beyond what many individual schools and school districts may be able to provide; offering additional opportunities to learners and educators to learn new subjects and receive “on time” training; and focus on the individual learner with an “anytime, anywhere” method of delivery. These opportunities include our Tecumseh Virtual Academy which allows learners to complete both required and elective courses online anywhere and anytime. This program can be utilized in the high school setting or at home depending on the needs of the learners. Our seat time waiver program allows learners to work a flexible schedule but still have accountability.

To be successful in online classes a learner must be a self-starter, with a strong sense of direction, and the ability to set goals and follow through with them. A successful learner can work independently, stay on task, and maintain a regular schedule of logging in and keeping up with course expectations. The learner must have the ability to keep up with ongoing, sometimes very demanding expectations, without the constraints of a “fixed time and place” setting. The content of courses is generally as rigorous as those found in a face-to-face classroom course. In some cases, courses require regular interaction with the instructor and the other learners in a course. The learner can expect to log on daily for updates, messages, and communication among participants.

These enhanced learning opportunities also present the potential “pitfall” of isolation due to the lack of personal instruction with a learning facilitator.

Online courses have been found to be a valuable option for the following:

- College bound learners in need of advanced or specialized coursework
- Learners wanting to improve their skills in specific subject areas
- Homebound or other reasonable need for credit recovery to complete graduation requirements
- Learners with a high degree of self-discipline and motivation and the ability to keep up with demanding expectations

The cost for virtual courses only applies to courses completed in addition to a six hour schedule or during summer school.

Learners with an online class in their schedule will report to a classroom at THS for this hour and be subject to the same attendance and behavior standards as any other course.

## **Edgenuity E2020**

Edgenuity E2020 is the currently primary provider of online advancement/enrichment courses that are taken through the school. These online classes range from the most simple, self-paced

tutorial format, to a highly interactive and content-rigorous experience. THS learners will receive a letter grade for E2020 coursework.

The multimedia-rich, virtual classroom engages learners in the learning process through animations, simulations, video-based presentations, online content, vocabulary development, and exploration activities that support each lesson presented by the virtual classroom learning facilitator. Online embedded homework, evaluations, and other activities reinforce learner understanding with content mastery that is measured through formative and summative assessments delivered for each class. When applicable, final exams will be completed at school.

For more information on course descriptions visit <http://www.edgenuity.com>

### **Michigan Virtual School**

THS has partnered with Michigan Virtual School (MVS) to offer more than 150 unique online courses. MVS is one of the largest virtual schools in the U.S. and its course offerings allow THS learners to take introductory and advanced (AP) classes in English, mathematics, science, social studies, foreign language, health, career exploration, life skills, art and other subjects. MVS courses are quite rigorous and require that learners spend an average of 10-15 hours per week on coursework. Each online course is taught by a highly-qualified learning facilitator with support from a THS mentor, and learners are expected to interact on a regular basis with learning facilitators, mentors and classmates.

### **Credit Recovery Online Classes**

To reposition themselves to graduate with their class, learners whose who have not been successful in a graduation requirement class will need to recover that credit and may choose to do so through online credit recovery. Tecumseh High School allows learners to take one or two additional credit recovery online courses during each semester of the school year and during the summer. Costs and transportation are the responsibility of the learners and their families. The credit recovery online classes can be taken during the school day in a computer lab currently through the GradPoint or E2020 Virtual Program. This program utilizes courses aligned to Michigan State Standards in English, math, science and social studies.

### **Summer School**

Tecumseh High School offers learners the opportunity to take or retake required core academic courses. Information is usually available in Learner Services in May. Guidance counselors are available to explore these options. The cost per ½ credit class is \$100 for credit recovery and \$25 for credit forward.

### **College Courses**

Learners who want the collegiate experience may take up to two eligible courses per term at area community or four-year colleges. Courses selected must not be equivalent to any course offered by our school district, including online and TECH Center courses. Learners interested in this opportunity must report their intent to the High School counseling department no later than

the first day of the semester. If the college course will be taken during normal school hours, the learner will need to drop a class from his or her THS schedule. The learner must secure the principal's permission, submit an application, and meet the school's requirements for admission. Learners who meet the above criteria may be eligible for reimbursement of college credit tuition. Full eligibility criteria are listed at <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>.

At the time the learner applies to take a college course, he/she may elect to take the course for high school credit, college credit, or both. Grades earned in college courses not needed for high school credit will not impact your GPA. However, courses taken for high school credit will. See your counselor for more information. THS does not pay or award credit for campus-based summer programs designed for high school learners. (Note: Learners are encouraged to start planning for college courses early in high school. Seniors who have not planned in advance may find themselves ineligible for college courses based on state law governing eligibility.)

### **Physical Disability/Extended Illness**

It is extremely important that the counselor be made aware of any condition which might interfere with the normal educational function of any learner so that his/her schedule can be carefully planned or adjusted with the disability or illness taken into consideration. This information is confidential to the administration and teaching staff.

### **Work Permits**

State Law Act #90 requires all minors who wish to work during high school have or obtain a work permit. Work permits are issued at the High School Office. During the summer, work permits are issued in the Board of Education Office located at 212 N. Ottawa. Hours are 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

## **Tecumseh High School Graduation Requirements**

**Subject Area                      23 credits are required for graduation**

<b>English</b>	<b>4 high school credits (1 credit each year) including:</b> 1 cr. English 9 1 cr. English 10 1 cr. English 11 1 cr. English 12
<b>Math</b>	<b>4 high school credits including:</b> 1 cr. Algebra I (grade 8 or 9) 1 cr. Geometry (grade 9 or 10) 1 cr. Algebra II (grade 10, 11 or 12) 1 cr. 4th year (grade 12)
<b>Science</b>	<b>3 high school credits including:</b> 1 cr. Biology (grade 9) 1 cr. Chemistry (grade 10) 1 cr. Physics (grade 11)
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3 high school credits including:</b> 1 cr. US History (grade 9) 1 cr. World History (grade 10) 0.5 cr. Government/0.5 cr. Economics
<b>Physical Ed. &amp; Health</b>	<b>1 high school credit including:</b> 0.5 cr. Physical Education/0.5 cr. Health
<b>World Languages</b>	<b>2 high school credits in the same language</b> Any Tech Center, Mechatronics or Art class may also count as a 2nd year of a World Language. However, most 4 year colleges prefer at least 2 years of the same language.
<b>Applied, Visual &amp; Performance Arts</b>	<b>1 high school credit of Art.</b> Classes that can count for an Art credit include: Band, Choir, Orchestra, Guitar, Computer Graphics, Publications, PLTW I, II & III and online Art courses.
<b>State Examination</b>	All students must take the state approved test in their junior year as a graduation requirement
<b>Online Experience</b>	All students will complete an online learning experience

## Standardized Testing

Standardized testing is an important tool for measuring the progress of our school and of individual learners. In addition, SAT test scores are considered by nearly all post-secondary destinations for admission, course placement, and scholarships.

## Required Official Tests

Tecumseh High School learners are required to take the state-required standardized test. Typically, this test takes place in the spring.

Go to [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) to see additional SAT test dates for 2018-19 or <https://www.act.org> for additional ACT test dates.

## College Readiness Exams

Many 11th and 12th graders will opt to take the ACT or SAT one or more times. Participating in a national standardized exam prior to the Michigan mandated exam can help learners practice. Participating in a national standardized exam after the exam required by the State of Michigan, can help learners improve their score and enhance their post-secondary options.

Go to [khanacademy.org](http://khanacademy.org) or consult your counselor for additional information about the SAT  
Go to [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) or consult your counselor for additional information about the ACT.

Tecumseh High School counselors are also available to provide assistance with registration, administration and information for other standardized tests, including:

- SAT program (SAT, SAT, SAT Subject tests)
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)

## Sending your SAT score reports

Most colleges and universities prefer to receive your scores directly from the testing agency. To send your SAT scores you must log in to [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) using the email provided to SAT on your answer sheet the day of testing. For more information please see your counselor.

## NWEA

NWEA delivers the insights that help learners learn, learning facilitators facilitate, and leaders lead. The NWEA is given 3 times per year to 9th and 10th grade learners and 11th grade special education learners.

## Parchment

To send your transcript to a prospective college visit [parchment.com](http://parchment.com) and set up an account. If you need help please visit the Guidance Office

## Preparation for Success at the College Level

90% of learners who enter high school say they want to go on to some type of college after they receive their diplomas. Yet, in four years, only half of them will make that dream come true. Of those 45%, some will finish and some will not. Why do some make it and some don't? What about you? How can you be sure you're one of the successful ones?

It's not grades, and it's not test scores. The biggest factor in who makes it to college and who succeeds are the courses you choose in high school. The more challenging courses you take, the better prepared you will be. Learners are better off taking challenging courses and earning C's, rather than taking easier courses and earning A's.

The Michigan Merit Curriculum and the National Collegiate Athletic Association have established standards for secondary preparation that will provide you with the background and skills you will need to meet the rigor of college courses.

Subject	Michigan Merit Curriculum	NCAA Division I Eligibility Standards ( <a href="http://www.eligibilitycenter.org">www.eligibilitycenter.org</a> )	Notes
English	4 years	4 years	Comprehensive courses that stress reading, writing, and thinking
Mathematics	4 years	3 years	Algebra I & higher
Science	3 years	2 years	NCAA recommends 1 year of a lab course
Social Studies	3 years	2 years	World History, US History, Economics, and Government/Civics
World Languages	2 years		
Other	The MMC also requires: 1 credit of Health/PE 1 credit of Arts	-1 year of an additional English, Math or Natural or Physical Science -4 years of additional courses from any area above or from World Language or non-doctrinal Religion/Philosophy courses -NCAA Amateurism Certification Questionnaire  ACT or SAT scores	
Total	18 credits	16 credits	

\*Some Michigan universities require a specific number of high school credits in certain academic disciplines. Furthermore, a learner whose background does not measure up to these recommendations will be expected to take (and pay for) remedial classes that may not count toward a degree program. For more information, go to the college's website or contact the admissions office.

\*\*Learners who intend to participate in athletics at Division I or II schools must meet these requirements for freshmen eligibility. Learners should register with NCAA after completion of the junior year. To register, go to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).

### Using Career Pathways

***"Failure to prepare is preparing to fail."~ John Wooden***

A pathway is a route taken to a destination. Sometimes pathways are well defined and direct, while other times they can wander and change course. In either case, the more time you spend planning your route, the less likely you will be to fail. Changing your mind about your future is okay. Pathways should not be viewed as separate tracks that never join. Instead, they are more like the highways on a map, with each one connecting to every other, directly or indirectly, creating many opportunities for you to choose your own route and to explore your personal interests and strengths.

Understanding a career pathway will help learners and parents make better decisions when planning for the future. This guide contains information about classes that a learner might take at Tecumseh High School to better prepare him/her for post-secondary opportunities. This information is for any learner whether he/she is thinking about entering the workforce immediately after graduation, attending a technical school or community college, or pursuing a

four-year or graduate degree. We encourage each learner and parent to review the information in this booklet and use it as a guide to select the best career pathway to the future. Course descriptions in this guide are coded with icons for the career pathway they support. Most courses fit under more than one pathway.



### **Educational Development Plan - EDP**

Educational Development Plans (EDPs) help learners identify career goals, list the interests and skills needed to meet those goals, and documents the experiences, education, and accomplishments needed to successfully attain them.

Beginning in 7th grade, learners complete activities that relate to career awareness and exploration. Through self-assessment activities learners identify their interests and talents and consider the career possibilities in each of six career clusters or pathways. Learners may have the opportunity to participate in career exploration experiences in their area of interest. For some learners, these experiences confirm their career pathway selection; others may decide to reassess their interests. Throughout high school, learners fine-tune their EDP allowing for changes in career goals.

Tecumseh High School, along with other local schools, uses the EDP tool at [careercruising.com](http://careercruising.com) to facilitate career planning and course selection. [Careercruising.com](http://careercruising.com) is a comprehensive and secure tool for maintaining EDPs and exploring possible career paths. Learners may print out a copy of their EDP to review at any time.

## **Using the Educational Development Plan (EDP)**

Learners should update his/her EDP at least once a year. Learners should use it to plan classes and activities to gain information and acquire experience in careers that interest him/her. It also makes an excellent resource for building a portfolio or resume.

## **Developing a Four-Year Plan**

In the learners EDP, he/she can complete a four-year plan by selecting the classes he/she believe will help him/her get the education and experience needed for his/her career interest. By completing a four-year plan learners will be taking an important step toward planning for a career. Keep in mind this is a plan and may change as the learner completes different courses and gets a clearer understanding of his/her interests and abilities. Learners are encouraged to discuss this plan at any time (at least annually) with his/her counselor, learning facilitators, and parents/guardians. Be sure to keep a paper copy on hand – complete the plan from the back of this guide, or print a copy from [careercruising.com](http://careercruising.com).

# **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

The subsequent descriptions are designed to provide the information necessary to make an informed decision on class selection and the best possible courses for learners to take to provide a meaningful, relevant, and rigorous academic experience. Learners should make these decisions with the support of their parents or guardians, while remembering that their school counselors and learning facilitators are always available to provide additional guidance and support. Each course description below includes the course name, the grade level permitted to take the course and the length of the course, the credit value and the weighted value of the course. Finally, any prerequisites that are required for the course are listed. Following these elements, there is a brief description of the course offering. With the sequential courses, a learner must successfully complete one level before proceeding to the next. Courses are one semester or one year long. Semester courses may be presented during either the first or second semester or both. NOTE: All courses run based on course enrollment and the availability of a properly certified learning facilitator. The administration has the right to cancel a course for any reason deemed appropriate.

**Key:**



AP Courses are indicated with a Green banner.



Honors courses are indicated with a Blue banner.



Course can be taken for an Art Credit



Course can be taken for a Math Credit



Course can be taken for a World Language Credit

## Art

### Art & Design I

1



- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

Learners will explore various art materials to develop a literacy of and an appreciation of our artistic heritage. Special attention will be placed on the principles of design and the elements of art. Out of class homework assignments are required.

### Art & Design II

1



- **Grade Levels 10-12**

- Semester
- Homework: Low
- Prerequisite: Art & Design I

Learners will explore various art materials to develop a literacy of and an appreciation of our artistic heritage. Special attention will be placed on the principles of design and the elements of art. Out of class homework assignments are required.

## Ceramics

- Grade Levels 10-12
- Semester
- Homework: Low
- Prerequisite: None

The purpose of this class is to provide learners with an opportunity for expression and creativity using clay as a medium. The Ceramics learners will create personal statements using the principles and elements of contemporary Ceramics. Various glaze and glaze decoration assignments will be experienced. Weekly Internet research is required.

## Advanced Ceramics

- Grade Levels 10-12
- Semester
- Homework: Low
- Prerequisite: Ceramics

The Advanced Ceramics class will be devoted primarily to throwing on the potter's wheel. Hand building will also be utilized to support various assignments. Learners will explore techniques and styles of ceramic glaze decoration. Non traditional techniques of firing (raku and smoke) will be experienced. Weekly Internet research is required. Participation in the spring RAKU firing is required.

## Drawing & Painting

- Grade Levels 10-12
- Semester
- Homework: Low
- Prerequisite: None

This class will lead learners to explore techniques for drawing landscapes, still life, and creative works through direct observation, imagination and reference to famous artists. Learners will use a variety of media, including pencil, ink, colored pencils, charcoal and

pastels. Out of class assignments are required to enhance the curriculum. Class critiques and learner writings are an essential part of the class.

## Advanced Drawing & Painting

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Drawing & Painting**

This class continues development of skills introduced in Drawing I. The proportions used for figure drawing and portraiture will be introduced. Color theory will also be explored. Critiques and out of class Assignments are required.

## Mixed Media

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

This class will explore a variety of media art forms and techniques. Using a design and drawing basis, the elements of art and principles of design will be expanded. Learners will build a portfolio of artwork that will showcase their talent through development of personal style. Art History as well as writing will be integrated in the projects.

## Advanced Mixed Media

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Mixed Media**

Advanced Mixed Media continues to develop skills introduced in Sculpture.

## Photography

- **Grade Levels 10-12**

- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

Learners will be introduced to the fundamentals of photographic vision, darkroom practices, and creative photographic problem solving through 35 MM black and white photography. Course content includes lecture, projects, group critiques, a basic history of the medium, and development of a basic vocabulary for discussing, critiquing and making photographs. Learners will learn basic techniques of exposure, composition, black and white processing, printing, print finishing, and print presentation.

## Advanced Photography

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Photography**

Advanced Photography continues the exploration of photographic processes, equipment, and materials. Learners will explore career opportunities in the field of photography.

## Sculpture

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

This class explores various materials used to create sculptures which may include wood, plaster, stone, paper, metal or mixed media. Learners will learn how to manipulate these materials and use sculpting tools and machines safely. Traditional and non-traditional methods will be used for additive, subtractive, and assemblage sculptures. A strong emphasis is placed on the study of sculpture history, analyzing other works of sculpture, discussion, and critique. Realistic and abstract sculpture will be studied. Out-of-class and group assignments will be introduced in the class.

## Advanced Sculpture

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Sculpture**

Advanced Sculpture continues to develop skills introduced in Sculpture.



- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Learning facilitator Approval**

AP Art will offer three studio art courses and portfolios: 2-Dimensional Design, 3-Dimensional Design, and Drawing. The AP Studio Art portfolios are designed for learners who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art. Learners submit portfolios for evaluation to the most common college foundation courses. Learners may choose to submit any or all of the Drawing 2-Dimensional design, or 3-Dimensional design portfolios. Learners create a portfolio of work to demonstrate the artistic skills and ideas they have developed, refined, and applied over the course of the year to produce visual compositions.

# Business & Computer Technology

## Computer Graphics I



- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

This course involves the creation of art using a computer and image editing software, such as Adobe Photoshop CC. Learners will learn to apply the elements and principles of design to their work.

## Computer Graphics II



- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Computer Graphics I**

In this course, the learner continues developing skills that they learned in Computer Graphics I. Learners use Adobe Photoshop CC and Adobe Illustrator CC.

## Business & Personal Finance



- **Grade Levels 11-12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

This course will introduce learners to the world of money management and finance. Learners will learn how to manage their personal money, how to invest their money and how to plan for the different chapters in their lives from saving for college through planning for retirement. They will also become familiar with finances in regards to operating a business. Some concepts covered include bank accounts, saving & investing, budgeting, taxes, insurance, credit, income & careers, employee pay & benefits, home ownership, and playing the stock market game.

## Accounting I

- **Grade Levels 11-12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

Accounting is the basis of how businesses operate. This course can also assist in keeping your own personal financial records. Many challenging experiences in business transactions are presented. Learners will also learn the steps for accounting for a sole proprietorship and a partnership. If you ever plan to operate your own business, accounting knowledge is a necessity. Most of the Accounting work is completed using business forms in Excel or Google Classroom.

**ENGLISH**

Learners must successfully pass the four years of required courses offered by the English Department for 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades in order to meet Tecumseh High School graduation requirements. Technology use is an expectation, and English 10-12 courses require successful completion of previous grade's course.

**\* Honors designates a college preparatory course that is designed to cover additional topics in greater depth.**

**It is the intent of the English Department that no learner takes more than one semester of required English at a time.** However, learners are encouraged to take an English elective along with the required course.

## **ENGLISH 10**

- **Grade Level 10**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Medium**
- **Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 9 or English 9 Honors**

Learners should sign up for one full year of English 10 classes choosing from the levels listed below. Learners in English 10 and English 10 Honors will study American literature and continue to refine, apply, and extend the solid foundation of knowledge, skills and strategies developed in previous years of study. Learners will learn to evaluate for validity and quality, to balance and expand their perspectives promoting empathy, social action, and appropriate use of power. Critical Response and Stance offers learners the lens to assess and modify their beliefs, views of the world, and how they have power to impact them.



## **English 10 Honors**

- **Grade Level 10**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Medium**
- **Prerequisite: Suggested A or B each semester in English 9 or English 9 Honors**

Honors classes will cover the same material as in general English classes; however, they will include additional independent reading, reading will be done at a quicker pace and there will be discussions and writing assignments that will include more critical, analytical, and interpretive viewpoints.

## ENGLISH 11 1 2 3 4 5 6

- **Grade Level 11**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Medium**
- **Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 10 or English 10 Honors**

Learners should sign up for one full year of English 11 classes choosing from the levels listed below. Learners in English 11 or English 11 Honors will study British literature; many of the authors studied will be encountered in college. Critical reading and writing will be stressed. Learners will work on improving their overall communication skills: listening, speaking, writing, vocabulary, and reading. Learners will also focus during the second semester's first six weeks preparing for the reading/writing portion of the SAT Test in both English 11 Honors and English 11.



## English 11 Honors 1 2 3 4 5 6

- **Grade Level 11**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: High**
- **Prerequisite: Suggested A or B in English 10 or English 10 Honors**

Honors classes will cover the same material as in general English classes; however, they will include additional independent reading, reading will be done at a quicker pace and there will be discussions and writing assignments that will include more critical, analytical, and interpretive viewpoints.

## ENGLISH 12 1 2 3 4 5 6

- **Grade Level 12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Medium**
- **Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 11 or English 11 Honors**

Learners should sign up for one full year of English 12 classes choosing from the levels

listed below. Learners in English 12 will study world literature; many of the authors studied will be encountered in college. Critical reading and writing will be stressed. Learners will work on improving their overall communication skills: listening, speaking, writing, vocabulary, and reading.



### English 12 Honors 1 2 3 4 5 6

- **Grade Level 12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: High**
- **Prerequisite: Suggested A or B in each semester of English 11 or English 11 Honors**

Learners in English 12 will study world literature; many of the authors studied will be encountered in college. Critical reading and writing will be stressed. Learners will work on improving their overall communication skills: listening, speaking, writing, vocabulary, and reading. Honors classes will cover the same material as in general English classes however it will include additional independent reading, reading will be done at a quicker pace and there will be discussions and writing assignments that will include more critical, analytical and interpretive viewpoints.



### Advanced Placement 1 2 3 4 5 6

- **Grade Level 11 or 12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: High**
- **Prerequisite: Suggested A or B in Honors level 10th and 11th grade required English courses (3.0 Cumulative GPA), Learning facilitator recommendation, completed application, and completion of assigned required work over the summer**

This course is taught at the college freshman level. In May, Learners may take the Advanced Placement English Exam in order to qualify for college credit for work done during the year. This is a rigorous course designed for the learner seeking an intellectual challenge. All major genres of literature are studied, as are the various styles of writing.

### Publications

1 2



- **All Grade Levels**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

Learners will produce the history of Tecumseh High School's current year in printed and digital formats.

\*Note: Publications can be **used** to meet the credit required for graduation.

## **INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY**

This emerging program is designed to provide technology literacy and to enhance the activities that are becoming a part of every occupation. No matter where we live, technology affects us in our everyday lives, and therefore it is of great importance to each learner to include courses in technology education in their high school career. Technology Education provides all learners with opportunities for experiences, which are concerned with developing insights into technology: its evolution, utilization, systems, significance, and its social and cultural impacts.

All courses that are offered provide the following:

- 1) Hands-on activities,
- 2) Problem-solving activities
- 3) Practical activities relating to concepts taught in academic classes
- 4) Updated curriculum introducing technological developments, and

- 5) Focus on future career opportunities and education needed to meet those goals.

The courses are electives and are open to all learners. You are encouraged to study the descriptions of the courses offered by the Career and Applied Technology Department and select course(s) of interest to you.

**Engineering Design-PLTW-1**     

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

Through hands-on projects, learners are exposed to professional communication and collaboration methods, design ethics, and technical documentation. Learners use industry standard 3D solid modeling software to design and document their solutions to design problems and challenges. They then communicate their design solutions to peers and members of the professional community. Designed for 9th or 10th grade learners, the major focus is the design process and its application.

**Principles of Engineering-PLTW-2**     

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Successful completion of PLTW I**

This class is the second offered in the Engineering thread of classes through *Project Lead The Way*. In this class learners will continue to learn about the engineering process. All aspects of the design process will be explored in further depth. Learners will continue to learn how to think creatively to find solutions to real world problems all while learning how to document and interpret their findings through a mix of exploratory and hands on activities which include but are not limited to basic robotic programming and architecture design

**Engineering Design and Development-PLTW-3**     

- **Grade Levels 11-12**

- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Successful completion of PLTW I & II**

The knowledge and skills learners acquire throughout PLTW Engineering come together in EDD as they identify an issue and then research, design, and test a solution, ultimately presenting their solution to a panel of engineers. Learners apply the professional skills they have developed to document a design process to standards, completing EDD ready to take on any post-secondary program or career.

**\*Note: PLTW classes can be used to meet the Art-related credit required for graduation.**

## **Mechatronics**

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

The advanced, multidisciplinary field of engineering that is critical to the modern manufacturing industry. It includes a combination of mechanical and electrical engineering, including hydraulics, pneumatics and robots. Learners will also engage in individual and group design projects using industry standard software. Basic robotic programming and construction will also be explained. **\*Note: Mechatronics classes can be used to meet the 4th year math credit required for graduation.**

## **Wood Working**

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None**

Learners will learn the basics of woodworking by building projects. Learners will learn different wood species and their different characteristics, finish techniques and how to safely operate various hand and power tools to build their projects.

## MATHEMATICS

Seniors are required by the State of Michigan to take a math class or a math-related class. Accounting, which is taught in the THS Business Department, is considered a math-related class which a senior can use to fulfill the state requirement.

### Geometry 2 3 4 6

- **Grade Level 10**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Medium**
- **Prerequisite: Algebra I**

This course is the second in a series of four college prep courses. It integrates algebra and some discrete mathematics together with geometry. Pure and applied mathematics is also integrated throughout. Topics covered in this course are: Points and lines, language of geometry, angles and lines, reflection and congruence, proofs, polygons and symmetry, triangle congruence, perimeter and area, three dimensional figures, surface area and volume, indirect and coordinate proofs, and similar triangles and trigonometry. A graphing calculator is required for this course. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The Texas Instrument Nspire calculators are provided for in

class use. The Texas Instrument TI-83, TI-83 Plus, TI-84, or TI-84 Plus calculators are recommended for home use.

### Algebra II 2 3 4 6

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Medium**
- **Prerequisite: Algebra I & Geometry**

This is the third course in a four course college prep series. The content of this course integrates geometry, discrete mathematics, and statistics together with advanced topics in algebra as well as trigonometry. Pure and applied mathematics is integrated throughout the course. Topics covered in this course are: functions, variation and graphs, linear functions, matrices, systems, quadratic functions, powers, inverses and radicals, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry, polynomials, quadratic relations, and series and combinations. A graphing calculator is required for this course. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The Texas Instrument Nspire calculators are provided for in class use. The Texas Instrument TI-83, TI-83 Plus, TI-84, or TI-84 Plus calculators are recommended for home use.

### Algebra II A 2 3 4 6

- **Grade Level 11**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Algebra I**

This course together with Algebra II B satisfies the Algebra II requirement over a two-year period. The content of these two courses together integrate geometry, discrete mathematics, and statistics together with advanced topics in algebra as well as trigonometry. Pure and applied mathematics are integrated throughout the courses. Topics covered in this course are: functions, variation and graphs, linear functions, matrices, systems, quadratic functions, powers, inverses and radicals, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry, polynomials, quadratic relations, and series and combinations. A graphing calculator is required for this course. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The Texas Instrument Nspire calculators are provided for in class use. The Texas Instrument TI-83, TI-83 Plus, TI-84, or TI-84 Plus calculators are recommended for home use.

### Algebra II B 2 3 4 6

- **Grade Level 12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: Medium**
- **Prerequisite: Algebra II A**

This course together with Algebra II A satisfies the Algebra II requirement over a two-year period. The content of these two courses together integrate geometry, discrete mathematics, and statistics together with advanced topics in algebra as well as trigonometry. Pure and applied mathematics are integrated throughout the courses. Topics covered in this course are: functions, variation and graphs, linear functions, matrices, systems, quadratic functions, powers, inverses and radicals, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry, polynomials, quadratic relations, and series and combinations. A graphing calculator is required for this course. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The Texas Instrument Nspire calculators are provided for in class use. The Texas Instrument TI-83, TI-83 Plus, TI-84, or TI-84 Plus calculators are recommended for home use.

**Pre-Calculus**   \*\*\*If taken in the final year of high school\*\*\*

- **Grade Levels 11-12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: High**
- **Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II**

This course is designed to prepare learners to study AP Calculus. Pre-Calculus is the fourth course in a four course college prep mathematics program that requires memorization and application of many theoretical formulas and concepts. The content of this course integrates the concepts of trigonometry, functions, analytic geometry, and probability as preparation for calculus. Topics covered this course are: polynomial and rational functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; trigonometric functions and analytic trigonometry; analytic geometry; and sequences, series, and probability. A graphing calculator is required for this course. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The Texas Instrument Nspire calculators are provided for in class use. The Texas Instrument TI-83, TI-83 Plus, TI-84, or TI-84 Plus calculators are recommended for home use.

 **AP Calculus (AB)**   \*\*\*If taken in the final year of high school\*\*\*

- **Grade Levels 11-12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: High**
- **Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calc, learning facilitator recommendation and contract**

This course follows the AP curriculum (AB level). The learners must contract for this level, which may include advanced preparation or special projects during the year. This course is intended to provide a secure foundation for success in college Calculus. The elements and techniques of function analysis will be extended to greater depth. A graphing calculator is required for this course. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The Texas Instrument Nspire calculators are provided for in class use. The Texas Instrument TI-83, TI-83 Plus, TI-84, or TI-84 Plus calculators are recommended for home use for this course. Learners will be expected to take the AP exam and on successful completion may receive college credit. You will be required to submit a Learner Performance Contract at the start of the school year.



**Advanced Placement Statistics**      \*\*\*If taken in the final year of high school\*\*\*

- **Grade Levels 11-12**
- **2 Semesters**
- **Homework: High**
- **Prerequisite: Algebra II with a B or better or currently taking Algebra II and earned a G or better in both Algebra I and Geometry, learning facilitator recommendation and contract**

The topics for Advanced Placement Statistics are divided into four major themes: Exploring Data, Planning a Study, Anticipating Patterns and Statistical Inference. Applications of statistics are found in many areas of study including economics, psychology, sociology, chemistry, medicine, political science, biology, geophysical science, physics, engineering, and education. Statistics, in the form of decision analysis, is used in business decision-making and in marketing to analyze consumer preferences. Legal decisions are frequently based on the statistical analysis of evidence. Learners taking this course will be required to develop effective communication skills through the preparation of both written and mathematical analyses of real data. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The Texas Instrument TI-83 Plus, TI-84, TI-84 Plus, or Nspire calculators are recommended for home use. Learners will be expected to take the AP exam and on successful completion may receive college credit. You will be required to submit a Learner Performance Contract at the start of the school year.

**MUSIC**

Part of the uniqueness of humans is their ability and need to express themselves through personal emotions. When this uniqueness is cultivated, mankind becomes more in tune with his/her humanity. Therefore, music education should help learners develop the skills used to communicate emotion, understand the artistic expressions of history and define beauty. Participation in these classes develops the learner's ability to multitask, build interpersonal communication, and team building skills. Learners build self-confidence.

**\*Note:** All music classes can be used to meet the Art-related credit required for graduation.

## **Tecumseh High School Bands**

Tecumseh High School is committed to providing an outstanding experience for those interested in instrumental music. The bands have established a tradition of outstanding performance in venues throughout the state and nation, and are focused on building and learning skills that translate to success later on in life. There is a place in the THS band program for anyone who wants to enjoy music and perform.

### **Symphony Band**

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Band director approval**

The THS Symphony Band is the premier wind and percussion organization in the Tecumseh Public Schools. The band is dedicated to the performance of high-quality band music. Members of this group are expected to help achieve this goal through practice and rehearsal. Members of the ensemble are expected to perform in the Shooting Star Marching Band. The band performs at all home football games, the Tecumseh Christmas Parade, The Tecumseh Memorial Day Parade, District and State Band Festivals, Graduation and at least 3 other concerts during the year. Members are also required to participate in District and State Solo and Ensemble Festivals. Symphony Band may be repeated for credit and members are expected to participate for the entire year. Membership is determined by audition.

## **Tecumseh Schools Orchestra Program**

*The Tecumseh Schools Orchestra Program (TSO) is dedicated to instilling musical skills, foundations, and appreciation in string-playing learners. TSO ensembles are performance-based groups that refine learners' techniques*

*and playing abilities, as well as expose them to diverse genres of music. This nationally-recognized program will continue to provide learners with the opportunities to perform in a vast variety of venues multiple types of music, ranging from classical to fiddling.*

## Symphony Orchestra

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Band director approval**

The Tecumseh Schools Symphony Orchestra is a large ensemble dedicated to performing high-quality orchestral and multicultural literature. Members of this ensemble are expected to achieve these goals through group and individual practice. Learners in this ensemble will share their accomplishments through several performances throughout the year, including MSBOA District and State Festivals, concerts and performances. Symphony Orchestra will combine with wind and percussion players from the bands on occasion, providing a full orchestra experience. Symphony Orchestra may be repeated for credit and members are expected to participate for the entire year.

## Chamber Orchestra

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Audition and band director approval**

The Tecumseh Schools Chamber Orchestra is the premier orchestral ensemble at Tecumseh High School. The ensemble will be dedicated to performing the highest quality orchestral literature. Learners in this ensemble will share their accomplishments through several performances throughout the year, including MSBOA District and state Festivals, concerts and performances, as well as graduation. Symphony Orchestra will work in conjunction with the wind and percussion players from the bands in creating a full orchestra. Chamber Orchestra may be repeated for credit and members are expected to participate for the entire year.

## Guitar 1

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**

- **Prerequisite: None**

Learners will explore the basics of playing guitar through various learning activities. Learners will use a school owned, acoustic guitar, and have the opportunity to use the guitar at home to practice. Genres such as rock, folk, jazz, classical, and more will be explored by learners in large groups and collaborative, small group settings. Learning to read standard notation and guitar tablature will help learners become well-rounded guitarists. No other music classes are required, and skill levels may vary.

## Advanced Guitar

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Guitar I**

Learners will continue to explore the guitar in large groups and small group collaborations. Various genres will be performed by the learner, and learners are held to a higher standard in performances. Learners will use their music reading skills learned in Beginning Guitar to assist them in learning new songs. Greater attention to music theory in this course will assist guitarists in understanding music and composing their own. Beginning Guitar or learning facilitator's permission is required to take this course.

## **Tecumseh High School Choirs**

All Tecumseh High School Choirs prepare music for performances that entertain, educate, inspire, and/or provoke thought for both audiences and singers. Learners share what they've learned every term in a performance venue. Credit is earned for each semester taken, but singers are expected to participate for the entire year. Choir members develop ensemble and solo singing skills through performance-based rehearsals, music-reading, ear training, and vocal production techniques. Emphasis is placed on experiences that are part of human expression through the arts. Activities include the opportunity for learners to write about their musical experiences and view singing as lifelong learning that contributes to quality of life. In addition, learners will gain confidence and build self-esteem as they perform music for the enjoyment and enlightenment of others as well as for themselves.

## Chorale

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**

- **Prerequisite: Director recommendation with a strong desire to sing**

Chorale is the largest choir in the Vocal Music Program and performs standard choral literature from all styles and periods of music in a variety of languages. Depending on the year, the group is comprised of mixed voices or female voices. Chorale performs at all concerts, Choral Festival, in small groups at Solo & Ensemble Festival, and in combination with Chamber Singers for larger works. Learners in Chorale are expected to sight read at the intermediate level.

## Men's Choir

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: None, desire to sing and perform as a male choir**

Men's Choir is the class for all men entering the THS Vocal Music Program for the very first time. They perform at all concerts, Choral Festival, and Solo & Ensemble Festival. Learners will focus on tone building, music literacy (sight reading) and other skills that will assist them in advancing into the upper level choirs in the Vocal Music Program.

## Women's Chamber Ensemble

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Selection by the director based on audition and past performance**

Women's Chamber Ensemble is an auditioned women's chamber choir consisting of no more than 20 voices per school year. Repertoire is pulled from advanced choral literature from a variety of time periods. Women's Chamber Ensemble performs at all concerts, Solo & Ensemble Festival, and in combination with Chamber Singers for larger works. Learners who aspire to becoming a member of Women's Chamber Ensemble should be strong sight readers and able to hold their own part amidst others.

## Treble Choir

- **All Grade Levels**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Desire to sing and perform**

Treble Choir is the class for all women entering the THS Vocal Music Program for the very first time. Treble Choir performs at all concerts, Choral Festival, and in small groups at Solo & Ensemble Festival. Learners will focus on tone building, music literacy (sight reading) and other skills that will assist them in advancing into the upper level choirs in the Vocal Music Program.

## Chamber Singers

- **Grade Levels 10-12**
- **Semester**
- **Homework: Low**
- **Prerequisite: Audition and strong desire to sing at an aggressive level of accomplishment**

Chamber Singers is the premier performing ensemble in the THS Vocal Music Program. Its members are the most advanced in the program and are regularly called upon to perform around the area for special events and concerts. Chamber Singers repertoire is pulled from advanced choral literature from a variety of time periods. An important component to this class is the incorporation of chamber music. The larger choir performs in several smaller groups of different voicings to increase the depth of literature and scope of performance and perform in these small groups at Solo & Ensemble Festival. Learners in this class will also perform solo one time throughout the school year and are highly encouraged to perform these solos at Solo & Ensemble Festival. Learners who aspire to become a member of Chamber Singers should be strong sight readers and able to hold their own part amidst others.

**Online Course Offerings:**  
**Online courses are available for all grade levels**

**General Electives:**

- Intro to Art
- Art History 1
- Contemporary Health
- Health and Physical Education
- Online Learning and Digital Citizenship
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Strategies for Academic Success

**World Languages:**

- Spanish I / II / III
- French I / II / III
- German I / II / III
- Chinese I / II / III
- Latin I / II

**Career Electives:**

- Career Explorations
- Career Planning & Development
- Computer Applications: Office 2010
- Computer Science
- Introduction to Entrepreneurship
- Personal Finance
- Projects in Audio Engineering

**Career Pathways:**

- Health Science Concepts (1 year course)
- Intro to Business (2 semester course)
- Intro to Information Technology
- Medical Terminology
- Microsoft Office Specialist (2 semester course)
- Nursing Assistant (2 semester course)
- Pharmacy Tech (2 semester course)

 <b>Science</b> Technology Chemistry Earth Science Environmental Science Life Science Physical Science Physics	<b>Math</b> Algebra I Geometry Algebra II Consumer Math Personal & Family Finance Algebra II Pre-Calculus Statistics
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