



WHS Earl Wooster High School

School Profile 2009-2010

www.washoe.k12.nv.us/wooster



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IB Coordinator

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Dean of Students

CEEB Code: 290-142
IB World School Code: 000942
Enrollment: 1600-1650 students
School Year: 2 semester/4 terms

Earl Wooster High School is a comprehensive public institution within the Washoe County School District (WCSD), grades 9-12, with a student population which is ethnically, racially, culturally, and linguistically diverse. Programs that are available to meet the needs of our diverse student population include: English as a Second Language (ESL/ELL), Occupational and Technical Education (CTE), High School Reserve Officers Training Corps (HSROTC), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced Placement (AP), as well as programs in the areas of Music, Drama and the Arts. The local post-secondary options available to students include the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), and Western Nevada College (WNC), as well as many trade and technical schools.

Graduation Requirements

To receive a standard diploma from a Washoe County High School, a student must earn a minimum of 22½ credits. Of these 22½ credits, 16 are required subject areas, and 6½ are considered elective credits. Those courses that are required are as follows:

English/Language Arts	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
History/Social Science	3 credits, including World History, U. S. History, and American Government
Science	2 credits
Arts/Humanities/CTE	1 credit
Computer Literacy	½ credit or with a WCSD computer waiver
Health	½ credit or with the 5 th semester of HSROTC or Human Development I
Physical Education or HSROTC	2 credits

All students seeking a high school diploma must pass the Nevada State High School Proficiency Examinations (HSPE) in Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Science.

Gateway Curriculum

Washoe County School District has implemented the Gateway Curriculum which students are strongly encouraged to meet. These requirements add one more year of mathematics (total of 4 credits) and one more year of science (total of 3 credits). If students are not going to meet the Gateway course of study they must "Opt-Out" in the spring of their junior year with a documented meeting attended by the parent/guardian, counselor, and administrator.

Advanced Diploma

Students receiving an advanced diploma will have completed a minimum of 24 credits, including all requirements for a standard diploma plus one additional credit of mathematics (total of 4 credits) and one additional credit of science (total of 3 credits) with a minimum of a 3.25 GPA (weighted or un-weighted).

Honors Diploma

In order to receive a Honors Diploma at graduation a student will have met the requirements for the advanced diploma with a minimum of a 3.4 GPA (weighted or un-weighted). Of the mathematics credits, 3 of the 4 credits must include Algebra 1-2 and above, and of the science credits, 2 of the 3 credits must be biology, chemistry, or physics and above. A student also has to have completed 2 years of the same foreign language and have not received a failing (F) grade in any course during the Junior and Senior year.

Grading System

The students are graded in both academic achievement and citizenship/behavior. All half-credit courses are weighted equally and are included in computing a student's grade point average (GPA) with the exception of honors, advanced and IB courses. Honors courses have an additional weight of 0.025, while AP and IB courses have an additional weight of 0.050. The following numerical equivalents are used to determine the GPA for reporting to all outside agencies. In order to receive credit for a class, a student must receive a minimum grade of a D- in that class. All grades are converted to a four-point scale:

A or A-	4.0
B or B-	3.0
C or C-	2.0
D or D-	1.0
F (Fail)	0

Special Curriculum Features

Classes are structured on a semester basis which are 18 weeks in length and comprised of two terms each. Credits are posted at the close of each semester. The grade and credit issued at the end of each semester reflects the student's work for both terms and is not an average of the two nine-week grades. Additionally, Wooster is on a modified block schedule. All regular classes meet every Monday, Tuesday, and Friday for 55 minutes, with odd numbered classes meeting on Wednesdays, and even numbered classes meeting on Thursdays which represent the block days. On block days classes meet for 95 minutes each with an additional Extended Learning Time (ELT) for 50 minutes.

Special Classes

All classes that are not considered part of the regular curriculum carry a special notation on the permanent record. Honors, Advanced Placement and IB are designed for college preparation and college admission. A list of these notations is as follows:

H - Honors	P - Proficiency	AP - Advanced Placement
AE - Alternative Education	IB - International Baccalaureate	ELL/ESL - English as a Second Language

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are offered in the Junior and Senior year in the following subject areas: English Language, English Literature, US History, American Government, Calculus, Statistics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, French, and Spanish. AP exams are required in all AP courses.

International Baccalaureate (IB) classes are offered in Junior and Senior year in the following subjects: English, History of the Americas, Math Studies, Math HL, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, French, Spanish, Art, Theater, Music, and Theory of Knowledge. Registration in IB courses is a mandatory requirement for IB examinations.

International Baccalaureate

The International Baccalaureate Program is a comprehensive and rigorous curriculum designed to prepare students for university education. The primary objective of the IB program is to provide students with a balanced, integrated curriculum in all academic areas. IB students can earn college credits before high school graduation by taking examinations at the end of their junior or senior year. Wooster is one of three IB schools in Nevada and is the only IB school in northern Nevada. A student may participate as a diploma candidate or as a certificate candidate.

Testing

PSAT/NMSQT - Preliminary Scholarship Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test - sophomore and junior year
SAT or ACT - College Entrance Exams - junior or senior year

ASVAB - Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Exam - junior year

HSPE - Nevada State High School Proficiency Examinations - sophomore, junior, and senior year

Graduation Statistics

The following percentages represent diplomas that were awarded for graduating students.

	<u>Standard Diploma</u>	<u>Advanced Diploma</u>	<u>Honors Diploma</u>
Class of 2009	43%	19%	38%
Class of 2008	51%	13%	36%
Class of 2007	41%	26%	33%
Class of 2006	56%	15%	29%

Additional information regarding Earl Wooster High School's policies and programs can be furnished upon request.