

Lassen Community College Course Outline

BS 170 Basic Skills: Pre-High School Equivalency Preparation I 0.0 Units

I. Catalog Description

This course is designed for students who complete two of the HiSET exams in two of the five core curricular areas of language arts reading, language arts writing, science, social studies, and math. This course provides review and practice in these areas to provide the necessary basic skills foundation required in preparing for the high school equivalency test.

Instruction is provided at designated reading and math levels to maximize student learning and to acquire the higher-level thinking skills necessary to prepare for the high school equivalency test. This course may be repeated until the student has demonstrated readiness for taking two of the high school equivalency tests in two of the five core curricular areas. This course has been approved for open entry/open exit. This course has been approved for online delivery.

Prerequisites: None

Transfer Status: Not Transferable

68 hours lecture/68 hours lab (136 hours total)

Scheduled: Spring, Summer, Fall

II. Coding Information

Repeatability: As Needed

Open Entry/Open Exit

Grading Option: Pass/No Pass/Satisfactory

Credit Type: Not Degree Applicable/Non-Credit

TOP Code: 493062

III. Course Objectives

A. Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

Demonstrate readiness for completing the high school equivalency test by either showing improvement in the CASAS diagnostic tool assessment (pre and post assessment results) or by passing two areas of the HiSET Exam (the California High School Equivalency Exam) in two of the five subject areas.

A. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Language Arts- Reading: Read, analyze, comprehend, and evaluate passages from a variety of literary works including poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction. Students will improve CASAS scale by five points or pass the HiSET reading exam.
2. Language Arts – Writing: Given a particular topic and within a designated timeframe, construct, organize, and develop a cohesive argument with facts, details, and examples using proper English grammar, sentence structure, and mechanics. Students will improve CASAS scale by five points or pass HiSET writing exam. Science: review specific reading skills including main idea, relationships, inference and vocabulary in the understanding and application of earth and space science, physical science, and life sciences. Students will improve CASAS scale by five points or pass HiSET science exam.

3. Social Studies: Review specific reading skills including main idea, relationships, inference, and vocabulary as they apply to the areas of world history, civics, government, economics, and geography. Students will improve the CASAS scale by five points or pass the HiSET Social Studies exam.
4. Math: Demonstrate high school equivalency math skills including basic math, word problems, graphs, measurement, algebra, and geometry. Students will improve CASAS scale by five points or pass HiSET math exam.

IV. Course Content

A. Language Arts and Reading Skills

Apply the following basic reading skills to evaluate and compare literary passages of poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction. Course content and application of instruction may vary depending upon the needs of the student and individualized instruction.

1. Main idea
2. Supporting ideas
3. Relationships
4. Inference
5. Point of view
6. Application of ideas
7. Words in context
8. Pre and Post test

B. Language Arts and Writing Skills

The basic writing skills of Standard English including grammar rules, sentence mechanics, and spelling are included in Language Arts Writing Skills. Course content and application of instruction may vary depending upon the needs of the student and individualized instruction.

1. Grammar and writing skills
 - a. Parts of speech
 - b. Writing complete sentences
 - c. Sentence mechanics
 1. Capitalization
 2. Punctuation
 3. Subject-verb agreement
 - d. Spelling
 - e. Usage problems
2. Writing applications including writing an essay
 - a. types of essays
 - b. main idea
 - c. supporting details
 - d. organization
 - e. proofreading
3. Pre and post test

C. Science

Basic reading and writing skills are applied to science as they relate to earth and space science, life science, and physical science. Course content and application of instruction may vary depending upon the needs of the student and individualized instruction.

1. Understanding the difference between the sciences and scientific terminology

2. Interpret and analyze scientific data from charts, graphs, and diagrams
3. Determine cause and effect
4. Make inferences from scientific data
5. Evaluate data using the scientific method
6. Understanding probability and statistics
7. Pre and post test

D. Social Studies

Basic reading and writing skills are applied to social studies as they relate to world history, civics, government, economics, and geography. Course content and application of instruction may vary depending upon the needs of the student and individualized instruction.

1. Review world history, civics, economics, and geography
2. Read and interpret maps, diagrams, and cartoons
3. Interpret cause and effect relationships
4. Identify unstated assumptions
5. Summarize main idea from reading passages
6. Understand mode, median, and mean
7. Pre and post test

E. Math

Topics to be covered are listed below. Course content and application of instruction may vary depending upon the needs of the student and individualized instruction.

1. Basic arithmetic concepts
2. Fractions
3. Decimals
4. Ratio and proportion
5. Percent and interest
6. Interpretation of line and bar graphs
7. Measurement
8. Word problems
9. Algebra
10. Geometry
11. Pre and post tests

F. Test Taking Skills

1. Basic test taking practice utilizing a calculator
2. Test organization, time limits, and understanding test scores
3. Familiarization with basic computer skills, and using drop down menus
4. Test preparation and techniques
5. Study Skills

V. Assignments

A. Appropriate Reading

Students will read and review from the textbook and instructor handouts.

B. Writing Assignments

Students will complete written essays and quizzes as assigned.

C. Other Out of Class Assignments

For every lecture hour, the students in this class will spend 2 hours outside of class completing assigned reading, completing worksheets, writing papers, and doing independent study.

D. Laboratory Courses

Students will get individualized instruction as they work independently in the lab.

E. Assignments that Demonstrate Specific Critical thinking Skills

1. Analysis of reading comprehension will be reflected with each written assignment.
2. Students will compose written essays in the narrative, comparison/contrast, or point of view format.
3. Students will use critical thinking in solving a variety of mathematical problems.

VI. Methods of Evaluation

Traditional Classroom Evaluation

1. Participation
2. Exams and quizzes
3. Written assignments
4. Pre and post-test assessments

Online Evaluation

Students will be evaluated using online methods. Online students will complete assignments as described in the course outline using Aztec Software (online high school equivalency program.)

VII. Methods of Delivery

Traditional Classroom Delivery **Correspondence Delivery**

Hybrid Delivery

Online Delivery

Traditional Classroom Delivery

1. Lecture
2. Individual and group activities/discussion
3. Media presentations
4. Speakers
5. Computer-aided instruction Aztec high school equivalency software program.

Online Delivery

Online web-based lessons utilizing Aztec high school equivalency software program.

VIII. Representative Texts and Supplies

New Readers Press: "Pre HSE-Core Skills in Math", 2015, New Readers Press, ISBN: 978-1-56420-881-1

New Readers Press: "Pre HSE-Core Skills in Reading and Writing", 2015, New Readers Press, ISBN: 978-1-56420-882-8

New Readers Press: "Pre HSE-Core Skills in Science", 2015, New Readers Press, ISBN: 978-1-56420-879-8

New Readers Press: "Pre HSE-Core Skills in Social Studies", 2015, New Readers Press, ISBN: 978-1-56420-880-4

Pre-High School Equivalency Workbooks New Reader Press: "Pre-HSE: Reading

Comprehension and Critical Thinking”, 2015, New Reader Press, ISBN: 978-1-56420-640-4

New Reader Press: “Pre-HSE: Grammar, Spelling, and Writing Basics”, 2015, New Reader Press, ISBN: 978-1-56420-641-1

New Reader Press: “Pre-HSE: Developing and Organizing Written Responses”, 2015, New Reader Press, ISBN: 978-1-56420-642-8

New Reader Press: “Pre-HSE: Algebraic Thinking, Data Analysis, and Probability”, 2015, New Reader Press, ISBN: 978-1-56420-645-9

IX. Discipline/s Assignment

Basic Skills – Interdisciplinary Noncredit

X. Course Status

Current Status: Active

Originator: Kittie Edson

Original Approval Date: 10/20/2015

Board Approval Date: 11/10/2015

Chancellor’s Office Approval Date: 01/23/2016

Revised By:-Elizabeth Darley

Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee Revision Date: 05/16/2023