

**Union County Educational Services Commission  
High School Course Syllabus**

**Title:** Success Seminar - College Preparation

**Timeline:** Full Year; 5 Credits

**Course Description:**

In this course students will be introduced to the skills necessary for establishing post-high school plans. By exploring possible professions along with steps needed obtain them, students will equipped with the skills for selecting and applying for post-secondary college and/or career. Students will be introduced to various post-secondary programs, the college application process, different types of financial aid available (grants, loans, scholarships), and go through processes of creating an FSA ID and completing the FAFSA. The course will culminate in a study of skills necessary for success in post-secondary college and/or career, such as time management and positive study habits, are attained through this course as well.

**Course Outline:**

- I. Finding the Right College
- II. College/ Vocational Program Essay and Application
- III. Financial Aid
- IV. Study Skills and Time Management

Refer to the attached curriculum map for a detailed outline of course objectives.

**Curriculum Alignment:**

New Jersey Student Learning Standards - Career Readiness, Life Literacies & Key Skills  
New Jersey Student Learning Standards - Social Studies

**Grading Procedures:**

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Do Now            | 10% |
| Participation     | 20% |
| Class Assignments | 50% |
| Assessments       | 20% |

**Adoption Date:**

June 2024

**Union County Educational Services Commission  
Curriculum Mapping– Success Seminar – College Preparation**

|                        | <b>Unit 1</b>  | <b>Unit 2</b>  | <b>Unit 3</b>   | <b>Unit 4</b>  |
|------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Number of Weeks</b> | approx. 2 weeks  | approx. 3 weeks  | approx. 3 weeks   | approx. 2 weeks  |
| <b>Topic</b>           | Finding the “Just Right” College   | College/ Vocational Program Essay and Application  | Financial Aid   | Study Skills and Time Management   |
| <b>Standards</b>       | <p>CLKS- Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions<br/>Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.</p> | <p>CLKS- Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions<br/>Students understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.</p> | <p>CLKS- Attend to financial well-being<br/>Students take regular action to contribute to their personal financial well-being, understanding that personal financial security provides the peace of mind required to contribute more fully to their own career success.</p> | <p>CLKS- Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals<br/>Students take personal ownership of their own education and career goals, and they regularly act on a plan to attain these goals. They understand their own career interests, preferences, goals, and requirements. They have perspective regarding the pathways available to them and the time, effort, experience and other requirements to pursue each, including a path of entrepreneurship. They recognize the value of each step in the education and experiential process, and they recognize that nearly all career paths</p> |

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|  | <p>CLKS- Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals<br/>Students take personal ownership of their own education and career goals, and they regularly act on a plan to attain these goals. They understand their own career interests, preferences, goals, and requirements. They have perspective regarding the pathways available to them and the time, effort, experience and other requirements to pursue each, including a path of entrepreneurship. They recognize the value of each step in the education and experiential process, and they recognize that nearly all career paths require ongoing education and experience. They seek counselors, mentors, and other experts to assist in the planning and execution of career and personal goals.</p> |  |  | <p>require ongoing education and experience. They seek counselors, mentors, and other experts to assist in the planning and execution of career and personal goals.</p> |
|--|---|--|--|---|

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| <b>Content</b>   | <p>Characteristics of different post-high school programs</p> <p>Post-High School Scenarios (work vs. school)</p>   | <p>Common Application</p> <p>UCC Application</p> <p>Other Applications</p>  | <p>FAFSA</p> <p>FSA ID</p> <p>Other Financial Documents</p> <p>Scholarships</p>  | <p>Schedules: class and personal time</p> <p>Time Budgets</p> <p>Eight Ways to Take Control of Your Time</p>   |
| <b>Skills</b>    | <p>Completing an online college search</p> <p>Understanding college admission requirements and what is required to meet them</p>  | <p>Answering questions completely yet succinctly</p> <p>Selecting the right college essay</p> <p>Essay writing</p> <p>Understand how to complete a college or vocational school application</p>   | <p>Identifying college financing options</p> <p>Gathering information necessary to apply for financial aid</p> <p>Completing the FAFSA</p> <p>Budgeting</p> <p>Identifying and applying for scholarships</p> | <p>Identifying study skills that are effective for individual personalities and learning styles</p> <p>Creating schedules and calendars (short term and long term)</p> <p>Setting personal goals to ensure compliance with schedules</p>   |
| <b>Resources</b> | <p><a href="https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search/filters">https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search/filters</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.timeforpayback.com/">https://www.timeforpayback.com/</a></p> | <p><a href="https://www.commonapp.org/blog/2023-2024-common-app-essay-prompts">https://www.commonapp.org/blog/2023-2024-common-app-essay-prompts</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.collegeessayadvisors.com/portfolio-items/2024-25-common-application-essay-prompts-guide/">https://www.collegeessayadvisors.com/portfolio-items/2024-25-common-application-essay-prompts-guide/</a></p> | <p><a href="https://studentaid.gov/">https://studentaid.gov/</a></p>   | <p><a href="https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/plan-for-college/stand-out-in-high-school/stay-motivated/8-ways-to-take-control-of-your-time">https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/plan-for-college/stand-out-in-high-school/stay-motivated/8-ways-to-take-control-of-your-time</a></p> |