



Bard BARD HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE

MANHATTAN—QUEENS



A partnership between the New York City Public Schools and Bard College

School Profile 2019-20 Manhattan and Queens Overview

(Manhattan-specific data on page 4)

Mission

Premised on the belief that many adolescents are ready and eager for greater challenge, Bard High School Early College seeks to provide bright and highly motivated students, regardless of background, with an intellectually engaging four-year academic program that leads to a two-year college liberal arts degree. Students graduate prepared to take upper-level college courses, earn a baccalaureate degree, develop successful careers, and contribute to society.

Accreditation

BHSEC's two-year college degree program is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges as a branch campus of Bard College at Simon's Rock: The Early College, the nation's only four-year college specifically designed for younger scholars. BHSEC Manhattan and BHSEC Queens are recognized by the New York State Board of Regents.

About BHSEC

Bard High School Early College (BHSEC), a nationally recognized public early college, was established in 2001 as a partnership between Bard College and the New York City Department of Education. BHSEC currently operates schools in Manhattan (2001) and Queens (2008), New York; Newark, New Jersey (2011); Cleveland, Ohio (2014); Baltimore, Maryland (2015); and Washington, DC (2019)—all in partnership with their respective city public school systems.

The BHSEC schools immerse students in the traditions and practices associated with a liberal arts and sciences education. Students take high school courses in the 9th and 10th grades, and then engage in a full college-level course of studies in the 11th and 12th grades, graduating with an associate in arts degree from Bard College as well as a high school diploma. With a faculty of highly qualified scholars and artists who teach both high school and college courses, BHSEC aspires to impart higher-level thinking skills through analytic writing, focused discussion, and in-depth inquiry.

- No tuition is charged
- The average student-to-teacher ratio is 20:1
- The rigorous college program includes college-level mathematics and science classes and an array of seminars in the humanities and social sciences
- Over 90% of BHSEC Manhattan and Queens students earn the A.A. degree; 98% - 100% of students earn a New York State Regents high school diploma

Student Body and Admissions

The student body at the Manhattan and Queens campuses is broadly diverse in ethnic and economic background (see page 4). Admission to BHSEC is based on the student's academic record, writing and math assessments, and an interview. Successful applicants typically have a minimum grade average of 85. Last year, BHSEC received more than 5,000 applications for 9th grade seats at its Manhattan and Queens campuses; each campus accepts approximately 150 students into its incoming 9th grade class.

- Students from the five boroughs of New York City are eligible to apply to BHSEC Manhattan and Queens
- Evidence of academic ambition and intellectual curiosity is critical
- The enrollment goal is 600 at BHSEC Manhattan and 630 at BHSEC Queens

Faculty Profile

BHSEC faculty members are active in their fields of expertise and dedicated to fostering adolescent learning. Most are experienced college professors with a special interest in working with younger students. BHSEC faculty members also pursue their own research and publications. Please see our website (bard.edu/earlycollege) for faculty biographies and accomplishments.

- More than 70% of the full-time faculty hold Ph.D. degrees
- Faculty members teach in both the high school and college programs
- Almost all BHSEC college classes are taught by faculty with terminal degrees in their fields

Continuation to Four-Year Colleges

The A.A. curriculum is designed to enable students to transfer to four-year colleges and universities with up to two years of general education college credit in the liberal arts and sciences. BHSEC students earn 60 college credits in classes composed of A.A. degree-seeking students and taught by faculty with terminal degrees.

- More than 95% of BHSEC students continue to a four-year college—one of the highest rates in New York City

Bard High School Early College Curriculum: High School Program

BHSEC equips a broadly diverse group of students for upper-level college work through a rigorous 9th and 10th grade program and two years of a liberal arts college curriculum.

In their first two years at BHSEC, students undertake a course of study that provides a solid grounding in mathematics, science, history, English, and a foreign language. They participate in a variety of arts and physical education classes and on athletic teams, and meet the state requirement in health. They are encouraged from the beginning to participate in extracurricular activities and community service.

Subject	Courses	Notes & Comments
Social Studies	Grade 9: The Americas I & II Grade 10: Global Studies I & II	The Americas is a comparative history course that surveys the major movements and events in North and South America from the colonial period to the present. The accompanying American Literature course is organized by genre, and covers historical documents and essays, poetry, classic novels, dramas, and short stories. Global Studies surveys the geography and history of Africa, Asia, and Europe from the earliest civilizations through the 20th century. The accompanying World Literature course includes an introduction to ancient mythic and sacred texts of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity, as well as examples of epic and lyric poetry, significant political documents, drama, biography, and fiction from a variety of periods and countries.
English	Grade 9: American Literature I & II Grade 10: World Literature I & II	
Math	Grades 9 and 10: Algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and modeling	The math curriculum ensures that all students master the basics of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Students with sufficient preparation may also take an accelerated program, including precalculus, while in the 10th grade.
Science	Grades 9 and 10: An introduction to scientific thinking, experimentation, and laboratory protocols in conceptual physics, chemistry, and/or biology	In the high school science program at BHSEC, students learn the essential skills and approaches scientists use in conducting research. Courses are laboratory intensive and inquiry based, developing students' ability to test hypotheses, analyze and describe results, and read and understand scientific literature. In preparation for more advanced courses in the college program, they take conceptual physics, introductory chemistry, and biology.
Language	Grades 9 and 10: An introduction to foreign-language study and immersion classes in Chinese, Latin, or Spanish	Students gain a strong introduction to foreign language study, electing to pursue Latin, Mandarin Chinese, or Spanish. The high school language program prepares students to work at an intermediate level and above when they reach the college program.
Arts	Grades 9 and 10: An introduction to the visual and performing arts; elective courses include design, drawing, digital photography, chamber orchestra, choir, guitar, piano, rock or jazz ensemble, dance, acting, scene study, and creative writing	In 9th grade, students receive a grounding in visual art, music, theater, and/or dance. The following year, students enroll in at least one art class each semester. These include visual art classes, music options (provided with the assistance of working musicians, including members of the American Symphony Orchestra), theater selections, dance, and creative writing.
Physical Education and Health	Grades 9 and 10: General physical education, health education	Students must complete eight semesters of physical education and one semester of health education while at BHSEC.
Regents Exams	English, one mathematics, one science, U.S. history and government, global history and geography	Prior to entry into the college program, students take all five required Regents exams. After successfully completing four years at BHSEC, they receive a New York State Regents diploma.

Bard High School Early College Curriculum: College Program

In their final two years at BHSEC, students meet the requirements of the Bard College associate in arts degree, taking four semesters of our signature general education seminar sequence in the history of ideas, at least one year of college mathematics and laboratory science, at least two semesters of a foreign language or courses in other cultures and literatures, and a semester of arts at the college level. In addition, they take more advanced electives in their particular areas of interest. Graduates move on to four-year colleges with a broad introduction to higher education in the liberal arts, often with substantial transfer credits and having met the distribution requirements of the new institution.

Subject	Sample Courses (catalogue available)	Notes & Comments
History of Ideas (four semesters required)	First-Year Seminar I & II; Sophomore Seminar I & II	The four-semester seminar sequence is the signature humanities experience of the BHSEC college program. The seminars are modeled on a course in Bard College's common curriculum that introduces important intellectual, cultural, and artistic ideas through reading and discussion of core texts. The seminars develop student skills in critical reading and interpretation of significant works in the history of ideas. Readings include Plato's <i>The Last Days of Socrates</i> , Dante's <i>Inferno</i> , Machiavelli's <i>The Prince</i> , Shakespeare's <i>Hamlet</i> , Goethe's <i>Faust</i> , Darwin's <i>The Origin of Species</i> , Marx's <i>The Communist Manifesto</i> , Freud's <i>Civilization and Its Discontents</i> , Forster's <i>A Passage to India</i> , Woolf's <i>To the Lighthouse</i> , Kafka's <i>The Trial</i> , and Frayn's <i>Copenhagen</i> , among others.
Humanities (four semesters required)	20th Century US Foreign Policy; African American Literature; The American City; The American Supreme Court; Caribbean Literature; Chinese Fiction and Film; The German Enlightenment; God and Caesar; History of American Education; Latin American Literature; Liberty and the Law; Lyric Poetry; Novels of Tolstoy; Political Ideas; Social Contract; Understanding Vietnam; World War I and the Making of the Modern Era	A wide variety of humanities courses are offered each semester by BHSEC faculty and by distinguished visiting writers and scholars in their areas of expertise. These fields include anthropology, art history, Asian studies, classics, cultural studies, economics, music history, philosophy, political science, and psychology, in addition to creative writing, history, and comparative literature. All classes are writing intensive, fostering students' ability to express their views with confidence and clarity.
Mathematics (two semesters required)	College Math Seminar; Precalculus; Calculus I & II; Groups and Symmetry; Knots and Surfaces; Introduction to Statistics; Computer Science	The math program is designed to serve students eager to pursue careers in research science, medicine, engineering, business, and pure mathematics, as well as those interested in the social sciences, arts, and humanities. Students are required to take at least one year of college math.
Science (two semesters of laboratory science required)	Cell Biology; Organismal Biology; General Chemistry; Calculus-Based Physics; Neurobiology; Physiology; Genetics; Cancer Biology; Infectious Disease; Noninfectious Disease; Ecology and Evolution; Zoology; Organic Chemistry; Chemistry of Food and Cooking; Astronomy; Quarks and Cosmos	Students enroll in one year of biology, chemistry, or physics with calculus to meet the basic laboratory science requirement. They can then choose from a variety of more specialized science electives or undertake a student-initiated tutorial or research project.
Language (two semesters of intermediate courses required)	Intermediate Chinese, Spanish, and Latin; Chinese Civilization; Hispanic Cinema; Mysticism in Latin America; Soccer and Latin American Identity; Classical Greek; Hellas; Poetry of Virgil; Ars Poetica	Upon completing the high school program, students take intermediate-level college classes in Latin, Mandarin Chinese, or Spanish. In these courses, students read and translate texts and gain increased fluency in speaking, understanding, and writing in the target language. At the end of the year, they can move on to advanced courses focused on the literature of ancient Rome, China, or the Spanish-speaking world and to courses on the culture and history of these areas.
Arts (three credits required)	Art of Film; Introduction to Photography; Documentary Photography; Painting; Printmaking; Songwriting; Rock Ensemble; Chamber Music; Musics of the World; Method Acting; Mime and Mask; Theater Production Workshop; Playwriting; Dance Ensemble	Many students enroll in at least one art class each semester. These include studio art classes; music options including jazz ensemble, chamber orchestra, and concert choir; and theater, dance, and creative writing.
Electives	As long as students fulfill all early college requirements, they may elect to take additional courses in any of the preceding six categories.	Students must complete 60 college credits over the course of their two years in the college program to receive the Bard College A.A. degree.

BHSEC Manhattan by the Numbers (figures updated annually)

Admission to BHSEC by the numbers, Class of 2020

5,500 eighth-grade students took the graded writing and math assessment for BHSEC Manhattan and Queens, Class of 2020
1,500 were interviewed for BHSEC Manhattan and Queens
340 were offered admission to BHSEC Manhattan
140 enrolled at BHSEC Manhattan

Grades: Two Transcripts, Two GPA Scales

BHSEC students receive letter grades from their teachers and separate high school and college transcripts. On the high school transcripts, which show work in the 9th and 10th grades, letter grades are translated into the New York City Department of Education's 100-point scale (**with 95 as the highest possible grade, since BHSEC does not award A+ grades**). On the college transcripts, which reflect work in the last two years at BHSEC, letter grades are converted into the Bard College 4.0 scale. BHSEC does not rank students or weight grades.

HS Program 95-Point Scale (DOE transcript):

95	93	88	85	83	78	75	73	65	55
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Letter Grade Equivalent for Both Scales:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
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College Program 4.0 Scale (Bard transcript):

4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.0	0.0
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Average Test Scores, Class of 2019

SAT: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: **653** Math: **654**
ACT: Composite: **29** English: **30** Math: **28**
Reading: **29** Science: **27**

Diversity, Class of 2020

(121 students)

Black/African American: **13%**
Hispanic/Latino: **19%**
Asian/Pacific Islander: **29%**
Caucasian: **38%**
Multiracial: **1%**

Snapshot of Students, Class of 2020

(121 students)

Percent who:

Have parents who did not graduate from a 4-year college: **30%**
Were born outside the United States: **18%**
Spoke a first language other than English: **29%**
Receive free or reduced-price lunch: **40%**

Class of 2019 College Enrollments (BHSEC Manhattan Campus)

Posse students receive four-year, full-tuition scholarships

QuestBridge students receive four-year, full-tuition scholarships with room and board.

Amherst College ¹	Kenyon College ¹	SUNY New Paltz ¹
Bard College ⁵	Lafayette College ¹ (1 Posse)	SUNY Oneonta ¹
Bard College Berlin ²	Lehman College of the CUNY ¹	SUNY Oswego ¹
Barnard College ¹	Long Island University, Brooklyn ¹	Syracuse University ⁴
Boston College ²	Macalester College ¹	The New School ¹
Brown University ²	McGill University ²	Trinity College ¹
Bryn Mawr College ¹	Middlebury College ¹	Università Ca' Foscari ¹
Case Western Reserve University ³	Morehouse College ²	University of California, Davis ¹
Columbia University ³ (1 Questbridge)	Mount Holyoke College ¹	University of Edinburgh ²
Cooper Union ¹	New York University ³	University of Oxford ¹
CUNY Baruch ⁹	Northeastern University ¹	University of Pennsylvania ²
CUNY BMCC ¹	Northwestern University ¹	University of Rochester ¹
CUNY Brooklyn ¹	Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences ²	University of Southern California ¹
CUNY City ³	Pace University, New York City ¹	University of Texas, Austin ¹
CUNY Hunter ²⁶	Pennsylvania State University ¹	University of Toronto ¹
CUNY Macaulay Honors ¹	Reed College ¹	University of Virginia ¹
CUNY Queens ²	Rhode Island School of Design ¹	University of Wisconsin, Madison ³ (1 Posse)
Dartmouth College ¹	Rochester Institute of Technology ¹	Ursinus College ¹
Elon University ¹	Scripps College ¹	Vassar College ¹
Fashion Institute of Technology ¹	St. John's University ⁵	Wellesley College ¹
Goucher College ¹	Stevens Institute of Technology ¹	Wheaton College ¹ (1 Posse)
Grinnell College ¹	SUNY Albany ⁴	Whitman College ¹
Hamilton College ¹	SUNY Binghamton ⁴	Yale University ¹
Ithaca College ³	SUNY Buffalo ¹	

Administration

Michael Lerner, Principal
Siska Brutsaert, Dean of Studies
William Hinrichs, Associate Dean of Studies
Benjamin Rubenstein, Assistant Principal

Sara Haberman, Assistant Principal Guidance
Quincee Robinson, Director of Admissions
Beth Cheikes, College Transfer Office Director

Contact Information

BHSEC Manhattan
525 E. Houston St., New York, NY 10002
Tel 212-995-8479; Fax 212-777-4702
bard.edu/earlycollege

CEEB code 330566