A visit to [BHSEC] is a glimpse into the realm of the possible . . . In class after class, I was struck by how engaged the students were . . . One of the things [BHSEC] has shown is that kids from wildly different backgrounds . . . can thrive in an educational environment that is much more intellectually demanding than your typical high school.”—Bob Herbert, “A Very Bright Idea,” The New York Times, May 17, 2010

Bard High School Early College (BHSEC) is a nationally recognized public high school early college with three campuses in the New York metropolitan area. BHSEC Manhattan and BHSEC Queens operate as a partnership between the New York City Department of Education and Bard College. BHSEC Newark, which opened this fall in Newark, New Jersey, is a partnership between Bard College and the Newark Public Schools system.

Students enter BHSEC in the 9th grade and spend their first two years of high school learning the skills necessary to succeed in college. After 10th grade, provided that they earn a 2.0 GPA or higher, these intellectually motivated 16-year-olds enter the college program. At the end of four years, BHSEC students graduate with a Bard College associate in arts (A.A.) degree and a high school diploma.

The student body at the Manhattan and Queens campuses is broadly diverse in ethnic and economic background (see back page). 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 4,000 applications for 9th grade seats at its Manhattan and Queens campuses; each campus accepts approximately 150 students into its incoming 9th grade class.

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 work on their own research and publications. Please see our website (bhsec.bard.edu) for faculty biographies and accomplishments.

The A.A. curriculum is designed to enable students to transfer to four-year colleges and universities with up to two years of college credit. BHSEC students earn 60 college credits in classes taken with other A.A. degree–seeking students at one of our accredited college campuses (see “Accreditation,” left) and taught by faculty with terminal degrees.

Our graduates go on to enroll in a multitude of excellent four-year college programs in the United States and abroad. Please see the back page for a list of these institutions.
High School Program

In their first two years at BHSEC, students undertake a course of study designed to provide a solid grounding in mathematics, science, history, English, and a foreign language. They participate in a wide variety of arts classes and complete the state requirements in physical education and health. They are encouraged from the beginning to participate in extracurricular activities and community service.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Notes &amp; Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 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 | 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 or statistics, while in the high school program. |
| Math             | Grades 9 and 10: Algebra, geometry, trigonometry                       | Science consists of a two-year introductory program in conceptual physics, chemistry, and/or biology that prepares students for advanced study in the physical and life sciences. Courses are laboratory intensive and inquiry based, integrating Internet and laboratory resources in addition to a classroom reference library. Upon completion, students may demonstrate their comprehension on New York State Regents exams in biology, chemistry, or physics. |
| Science          | Grades 9 and 10: An introduction to scientific thinking, experimentation, and laboratory protocols in conceptual physics, chemistry, and/or biology | Students gain a strong introduction to foreign language study, electing to pursue Spanish, Latin, or Chinese. The high school language program prepares students to work at an intermediate level and above when they reach college. |
| Language         | Grades 9 and 10: An introduction to foreign-language study and immersion classes in Chinese, Latin, or Spanish | In 9th grade, students receive a grounding in visual art, music, theater, and 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. |
| Arts             | Grades 9 and 10: An introduction to visual art, theater, music, and/or dance, and electives in choir, piano, guitar, chamber orchestra, rock or jazz ensemble, and creative writing | Students must complete four semesters of physical education and one semester of health education. |
| Physical Education and Health | Grades 9 and 10: General Physical Education, Health Education | Students must pass the Regents exam in each of the five required subjects to receive a New York State Regents diploma. |
| Regents Exams    | Prior to entry in the Early College: English; Integrated Algebra or Geometry; Physics, Biology, or Chemistry; Global History; U.S. History | Notes & Comments                                                                 |

# Bard High School Early College Curriculum

Bard High School Early College equips a broadly diverse group of students for upper-level college work through an innovative 9th and 10th grade program and two years of a liberal arts college curriculum.

## College Program

Students' work in the college program builds on their high school studies (previous page). Students must complete 60 college credits from among the following classes to receive the Bard College A.A. degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Sample Courses (catalogue available)</th>
<th>Notes &amp; Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English and Literature</strong> (Two-year seminar program plus one additional semester required)</td>
<td>First-Year Seminar I &amp; II; Sophomore Seminar I &amp; II; Memoir and Autobiography; Lyric Poetry; Introduction to Caribbean Literature; College Composition; African American Literature; Literature of Latin America; The Novels of Tolstoy; The Magic of Poetry; Mind, Body, and Spirit in the Novels of Dostoevsky; The Writer's Notebook; Comparative Literature</td>
<td>The required four-semester seminar sequence is the signature humanities course of the BHSEC college program. The seminars are modeled on Great Books courses at Bard College and Simon's Rock. Readings include Plato's <em>The Last Days of Socrates</em>, Dante's <em>Inferno</em>, Machiaveli's <em>The Prince</em>, Goethe's <em>Faust</em>, Shakespeare's <em>Hamlet</em>, Forster's <em>A Passage to India</em>, Marx's <em>The Communist Manifesto</em>, Freud's <em>Civilization and Its Discontents</em>, and Kafka's <em>The Trial</em>, among others. (More details available upon request.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Science</strong> (Four semesters required)</td>
<td>German Idealism; Intro to Microeconomics; Understanding Vietnam; Postwar U.S. History; The American City; Gender and History; Empire; Race, Wealth, and Nation; Contemporary Latin America; Freedom and Human Nature; The Renaissance; Art History I &amp; II; Liberty and the Law; The Social Contract; God and Caesar; Athens in the Golden Age; Introduction to Anthropology; American History; Rich and Poor; Political Ideas; Modern Chinese Literature and Film</td>
<td>A wide variety of social science courses are offered each semester at BHSEC. The courses are taught by faculty members from BHSEC, Bard, and Bard College at Simon's Rock; and by other distinguished visiting writers and scholars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Math</strong> (Two semesters required)</td>
<td>Regularly offered courses: College Algebra; Precalculus; Calculus I &amp; II; Finite Mathematics; Linear Algebra; Introduction to Statistics. Additional classes: College Geometry; Applied Differential Equations; Cryptology; Knot Theory</td>
<td>The math and science programs are designed to serve not only those students eager to pursue science, medicine, engineering, business, and pure mathematics, but also those planning to work in the social sciences, arts, and humanities. BHSEC is committed to providing in-depth college courses in math and science to all students, including those who may not have considered taking such courses had they not attended BHSEC. Students are required to take at least one year of college math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong> (Two semesters laboratory science required)</td>
<td>Chemistry I &amp; II; Cell Biology; Physics with Calculus I &amp; II; Biotechnology; Conceptual Physics; Organismal Biology; DNA Science; Genetics; Molecular Biology; Immunology; Biology of Cancer; Ecology and Evolution</td>
<td>Students take at least one year of college laboratory science and may enroll in physics with calculus, general chemistry, geology, and general biology. Also offered are a variety of semester-long courses in these and other advanced scientific disciplines, plus seminars and independent research projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language</strong> (Two semesters intermediate courses required)</td>
<td>Intermediate Chinese; Introduction to Chinese Civilization; Intermediate Spanish; Advanced Spanish; Spanish Literature Tutorial; Hispanic Cinema; Intermediate Latin; Classical Greek; Hellas; Ars Poetica</td>
<td>Upon completing the high school program, students take intermediate-level college classes in Chinese, Latin, or Spanish. In the intermediate courses, which are conducted primarily in the target language, students read and translate texts and gain increased fluency in understanding, speaking, and writing. At the end of the year, they are ready for advanced literature and language courses conducted entirely in the target language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arts</strong> (Three credits required)</td>
<td>Introduction to Photography; Painting; Printmaking; Songwriting; Rock Ensemble; Chamber Music; Musics of The World; Theater Production Workshop; 9/11 Mural Project; Playwriting; Dance Ensemble</td>
<td>Most students enroll in at least one art class each semester. These include studio art classes, music options (provided with the assistance of working musicians, including members of the American Symphony Orchestra), theater selections, dance, and creative writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Electives</strong></td>
<td>As long as students fulfill all Early College requirements, they may elect to take additional courses from any of the preceding six categories.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**BHSEC by the Numbers**

**BHSEC Transcripts and Grade-Point Equivalents**

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 100-point scale (with 96 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 New York City College Program GPA Distribution, Classes of 2012

(322 students: 144 in Manhattan and 178 in Queens)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPA Interval</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.0 – 4.0</td>
<td>52 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 – 4.0</td>
<td>106 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 – 3.5</td>
<td>61 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 – 3.0</td>
<td>57 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 – 2.5</td>
<td>46 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 2.0</td>
<td>47 students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2011 College Enrollments (Manhattan and Queens)**

Superscripts represent the number of students enrolled when the number exceeds one. Posse students receive full-tuition, four-year scholarships.

- Alfred University
- Allegheny College
- American University
- Amherst College
- Bard College
- Barnard College
- Beloit College
- Berkeley College
- Boston College
- Boston University
- Bowdoin College
- Brandeis University (Posse)
- Bryn Mawr College
- Clark University
- Colby College (Posse)
- College of Mount Saint Vincent
- Colorado College
- Columbia College Chicago
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- CUNY City College
- CUNY Hunter College
- CUNY Lehman College
- CUNY Medgar Evers College
- CUNY New York City College of Technology
- CUNY Queens College
- DePauw University
- Dickinson College (Posse)
- Duke University
- Earlham College
- Elon University
- Evergreen State College
- Fordham University
- Full Sail University
- George Washington University
- Grinnell College
- Hamilton College
- Hampshire College
- Harvard University
- Ithaca College
- Kenyon College
- Knox College
- Macalester College
- Marist College
- Marymount Manhattan College
- Middlebury College (Posse)
- Mount Holyoke College
- New York University
- New York University–Polytechnic Institute
- Oberlin College
- Pace University
- Princeton University
- Reed College
- Rider University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Saint Peter’s College
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Skidmore College
- St. John’s University
- SUNY Binghamton University
- SUNY Buffalo State College
- SUNY New Paltz College
- SUNY Old Westbury College
- SUNY Oswego College
- SUNY Plattsburgh College
- SUNY Purchase College
- SUNY Stony Brook University
- Swarthmore College
- Tufts University
- University of Bridgeport
- University of Chicago
- University of Delaware, Newark
- University of Massachusetts
- Amherst
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Richmond
- University of Rochester
- University of Southern California
- University of Tampa
- University of Vermont, Burlington
- University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Vassar College
- Warren Wilson College
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Wesleyan University
- Wheaton College (Posse)
- Williams College
- Yale University

**Mean SAT Scores, Classes of 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Manhattan and Queens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Reading</td>
<td>621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BHSEC Diversity, Both Campuses**

(For all 1,160 students: 631 in Manhattan and 529 in Queens)

- Black/African American: 15%
- Hispanic/Latino: 19%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 22%
- Caucasian: 36%
- Other: 8%
- Reduced and Free Lunch: 42%

**Snapshot of Students, Classes of 2012**

(Manhattan and Queens)

- Have at least one parent who did not graduate college: 58%
- Were born outside the United States: 24%
- Spoke a first language other than English: 29%

**Administration and Contact Information**

Manhattan (CEEB code 330566)

Michael Lerner, Principal
Martha Olson, Dean of Administration
Tabetha Ewing, Dean of Studies
Siska Brutsaert, Associate Dean of Studies
Camille Sawick, Assistant Principal Organization
Sara Haberman, Assistant Principal Guidance
Quincee Robinson, Admissions Director
Beth Cheikes, College Transfer Officer Director

Queens (CEEB code 331811)

Valeri Thomson, Principal
Martha Olson, Dean of Administration
Patricia Sharpe, Dean of Studies
Sue Leung Eichler, Assistant Principal
Quincee Robinson, Admissions Director
Jennifer Demello, Admissions Associate Director
Beth Cheikes, College Transfer Officer Director
Elena Yesner, College Transfer Officer Assistant Director

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