



Below is a list of the course descriptions for the 1st Quarter of the 2026 – 2027 school year. Each student will take at least 5 classes and a module. Students are expected to select a broad range of courses that match their interests, academic readiness, and state requirements. Please note some classes are required; therefore, some of the space in your program will be used for those required classes. Students should keep in mind both credit requirements and their preferences for the next term when selecting classes. 10th - 12th graders can use the transcript that they were mailed in summer 2026 to see their credit needs. Students will receive an email prior to scheduling with their required classes, and the classes they are eligible to take.

Courses with an * next to their name are not anticipated to be offered at any other time during the school year.

The required courses for the first quarter are:

Course title	Required for:	Course description	Credit
iLearn: Foundations in English	All 9th graders	iLearn: Foundations of English is designed to help make the leap from middle to high school as smooth as possible. At the beginning of the year, students will develop foundational reading and writing skills, focusing particularly on learning to conduct close readings of both prose and poetry. In the second quarter, students will shift their focus to reading a variety of texts on a broad topic and then placing their own thinking into conversation with the ideas of those other writers. In the third quarter, readings will be centered on adolescent experience, serving as mentor texts as students draft and revise their own coming-of-age narratives. They will end the year with a focus on performance: first through the reading of dramatic literature, and then through their own oral examinations.	2 English
Analytical Writing	All 10th graders need to take in Q1	From the billboards of Times Square to social media ads, arguments surround our everyday lives. In this required 10th-grade writing course, students will analyze various arguments according to Aristotle's rhetorical triangle, logical fallacies, and language. They will sharpen their expository writing skills and reflect on their writing growth throughout the course. The ultimate goal of the course is for students to become stronger writers, critical thinkers, and consumers.	0.5 English
Research and Writing	All 12th graders who took and passed Critical Thinking	In the Research & Writing course students will acquire the ability to successfully conduct scholarly research. You will learn how to be comfortable with the uncertainty of the work you are doing and will come to understand that a natural part of the process is to adjust the focus of your research (and, sometimes, to change	0.5 English



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		the direction of your research entirely). This is the second course in the senior project series and one that is designed to explore your research question by reading what other researchers have said about your topic. By the end of the quarter you will be able to approach scholarly research with confidence and skill, rather than uncertainty and fear.	
Prisoners of Geography	All students beginning their study of Global History and, potentially, sitting for the Global History Regents in June 2027	We are all “prisoners of geography,” at least according to author Tim Marshall. In this course, students will uncover how geography has shaped the history of various regions of the world and how that impact is still felt today. Through exploring Marshall’s book, Prisoners of Geography, and working in groups, students will hone their geography and analytical skills and develop a deeper understanding of the complexity of geography and history.	0.5 Global History
U.S. History	All students beginning their study of U.S. History and sitting for the U.S. History Regents in June 2027	U.S. History is a year-long course that focuses on the exploration of United States history and government, from the founding of the thirteen colonies to the present day. This course culminates with a Regents exam in June 2026. As a result, there will be a primary focus on helping you develop and strengthen a wide range of skills and structures that are needed for this exam. Throughout the year, you will build and strengthen your ability to write short essays using historical thinking skills such as cause and effect, similarity and difference, and turning point. You will also work on evaluating the reliability of sources by analyzing the author’s writing for bias, purpose, audience, and point of view.	2 U.S. History
Biology	All students who have not passed the Living Environment or Biology Regents exam	Biology is a required class for students who are beginning a year-long course of study ending with the Biology Regents. The course will cover important foundational topics such as genetics, ecology, evolution, and immunity, as well as some of the pressing issues of our time. In order to sit for the Regents each student is required to satisfactorily complete 1200 lab minutes and the corresponding lab assessments.	2 Life Science

Mathematics

All students will enroll in a yearlong mathematics course.

Course title	Credit
Algebra I Common Core	2 Mathematics
Geometry	2 Mathematics
Algebra 2/Trigonometry	2 Mathematics
PreCalculus/Calculus	2 Mathematics
Applied Mathematics (<i>Seniors Only</i>)	2 Mathematics



Statistics (<i>Seniors Only</i>)	2 Mathematics
AP Calculus AB	2 Mathematics
AP Calculus BC (<i>Seniors Only</i>)	2 Mathematics

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment College Credit Classes (year long classes, Juniors and Seniors only)

Enrollment for these classes occurred in spring 2026. If you were selected to take one of these classes for the 2026 -27 school year, you were notified in the spring. These classes will be listed as a required class when you get your individualized scheduling link. *No other students than the ones selected can enroll in these courses!*

Course title	Credit
SUNY ESF (Environmental Science)	2 Life Science
SUNY Writing and Critical Inquiry	2 English
AP World History	2 Global History

Non-required courses for the first quarter are:

English

Course title	Course description	Credit	Open to
Pride and Prejudice*	Pride and Prejudice is one of the most popular novels in English literature; for more than a century, it has inspired countless adaptations, unofficial sequels, films, and television shows. What is behind this novel's massive, lasting impact? Together, we will read and parse Jane Austen's complex novel of manners and some of its many adaptations, ultimately working on creating our own adaptations or analyses.	0.5 English	All students

Science

Course title	Course description	Credit	Open to
Marine Biology	Marine Biology is a comprehensive high school science course covering conservation, marine organisms, ecosystem dynamics, human impact, anatomy and behavior of the marine vertebrate. This course will include lectures, laboratory activities, data analysis, and independent research projects to enhance scholars' understanding of this final frontier of science on Earth.	0.5 Life Science	All students



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Botany: The Wonderful World of Plants*	Take a deep breath and then thank all the plants that just gave you that oxygen. Have you ever seen a beautiful flower or watched the leaves change color in the Fall? Have you ever wondered how all of these things happen? In this course, students will explore plant biology. They will learn plant anatomy, the process of photosynthesis, the various types of plants, and their uses around the world. Students will learn how plants “talk” to each other, reproduce, and shape their environment. They will explore the wonderful and mysterious world of plants and hopefully appreciate how important the world of plants is to us and the Earth.	0.5 Life Science	All students
Cognitive Science	How do minds and thinking work? Cognitive science tries to answer this question by putting together knowledge from different fields: psychology, linguistics, philosophy, evolutionary biology, computer science, and neurobiology, among others. We’ll look at many different thinking systems from human and animal brains to artificial intelligence, trying to understand how they process information and make sense of the world around them.	0.5 Life Science	All students
Chemistry (year long class)	In this year-long course, students will learn how to investigate, model, analyze and interpret data, and construct scientific arguments all while learning about the "stuff" around us. As we progress through the year, we will be learning how to apply real scientific skills while demystifying our current understanding of our universe.	2 Physical Science	Prerequisite: Living Environment or Biology Regents
Physics (year long class)	Physics is the scientific study of the natural world describing the interactions between matter and energy along space and time. This year-long course provides students with a conceptual and mathematical view of the fundamental principles that define our physical world. The major topics covered are mechanics, energy, matter, thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, and waves.	2 Physical Science	Prerequisite: Living Environment or Biology Regents

Social Studies

Course title	Course description	Credit	Open to
The Chicano Movement: Resistance, Rights, & Revolution*	This course explores the history, impact, and legacy of the Chicano Movement, a powerful civil rights movement of the 1960s and 1970s in which Mexican Americans fought for equality and equity, political empowerment, and cultural pride. We will investigate how students, farmworkers, activists, and artists organized to advocate for justice in education, land rights, labor rights, and government representation. By studying	0.5 US History	All students



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	various primary source materials, such as art, poetry, and film, we will learn how the movement shaped identity, challenged inequality, and continues to inspire the fight for social justice today.		
A New Revolution: From Industrial Revolution to Influencers*	What is technology? What role(s) has technology held in our societal pursuit of what is “new” and “better?” How has technology and the desire for innovation shaped our modern world? At what cost? While technology has offered our world new possibilities, it has come with its own challenges. This course will examine the evolution of technology from the Industrial Revolution in the late 18th and 19th centuries, to the nuclear age in the rise of technologically advanced warfare in the 1940s through the Cold War, and into the modern digital age, where Artificial Intelligence, social media, and influencer culture will continue to impact our social, economic, and cultural landscape for the years to come. We will engage in a diverse range of course materials including, but not limited to, historical documents, primary source writing and literature, and mixed media.	0.5 U.S. History	All students
Western Empire: The Congo Crisis*	The events of 1960-1961 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo erupted as a culmination of decades of European colonization. We will explore major themes and periods in the Congo’s decolonization from Belgium and the insidious interventions from Western powers. Topics of the course include: the Cold War, U.S-Congolese relations, and the tension between Congolese independence and Western desires for resources. We will read and watch documents and media from Congolese revolutionaries and the CIA in the events that were known as the “Congo Crisis.”	0.5 Global History	All students
Modern Conflict: The Iraq War*	How does a nation decide to go to war, and what is its true cost? In this course, students will examine the Iraq War from its historical roots through its lasting global impact. By investigating the political players, policies, and decisions that shaped the conflict, students will explore one of the most debated wars of the 21st century.	0.5 Global History	All students
Rock the Vote*	What makes an election free and fair? What makes a voting system democratic? Can changes to the system we use to elect candidates result in better leaders? In Rock the Vote, students will explore and evaluate different voting systems used to elect leaders in the US and other countries. We will dive into the Electoral College system and New York City’s trend-setting ranked-choice voting system.	0.5 Government	All students



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Personal Finance	Personal Finance introduces the financial tools and knowledge students will need to make good financial decisions in the future. Students will learn how to track, budget, organize, save and spend their money. We will also look at a series of real decisions students will need to make in the next few years about careers, student loans, credit cards, responding to discrimination within financial institutions, and options for building wealth.	0.5 Economics	All students
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Foreign Language

Course title	Course description	Credit	Open to
Spanish 1A, 2A, or 3A (semester-long course)	Begin or continue your study of Spanish by enrolling in this semester-long blended learning course. Students will use the online program Voces along with class time to become better speakers, writers, and listeners, as well as learn about Spanish culture.	1 credit Foreign Language	All students (10-12 placement determined by spring 2026 foreign language survey)
Heritage Spanish 1 (year long course)	This year-long course is designed primarily for Spanish speaking students who are comfortable with oral communication. Students will expand on their own experience and values, and develop an appreciation of the diversity of the various Latino cultures and their influence in the US. This class will be conducted entirely in Spanish.	2 Foreign Language	Heritage Spanish speakers
Heritage Spanish 2 (year long course)	This year-long course is a continuation of Heritage Spanish 1 to continue to support their diverse academic, linguistic and cultural background by increasing their ability to read, comprehend, interpret and react to a variety of authentic written texts, including literature, authentic audio and video selections and spoken language.	2 Foreign Language	Prerequisite: Heritage 1
Online French, Italian, or Mandarin (year long course)	Begin or continue your study of a foreign language by enrolling in this year-long online course. Students will use the online program, Rosetta Stone, to become better speakers, writers, and listeners, as well as learn about culture. <u>Please note there is no teacher for these online courses.</u>	1 credit Foreign Language	All students (10-12 placement determined by spring 2026 foreign language survey)

Arts Courses

Course title	Course description	Credit	Open to
Guitar 1*	Learning how to play an instrument can be one of the most rewarding experiences that a student can have. In Guitar 1 students will learn the basics of playing the guitar. Through a variety of songs we will learn about technique, open position chords, strumming patterns and rhythm. No previous experience is required. Students will need to have an instrument at their home, which they can pick up from the iSchool at a designated time and return after the course is over. In order to facilitate growth and give feedback it is a requirement that all students have their cameras on during live sessions.	0.5 Arts	All students
Beatmaking 1*	In Beatmaking students will learn how to use Soundtrap as a means to create music that is original, meaningful and relevant. Students will learn musical vocabulary while listening to and analyzing examples of some beats created by the masters. We will also study rhythmic notation and be creating 2 original pieces of music.	0.5 Arts	All students
Jazz Ensemble (year long course)	Considered to be America's only true art form, Jazz is a style of music that combines many influences from all over the globe to create a platform of expression, communication and creativity. In this course students will learn about the history of the music through structured listening, reading and videos as well as instrumental practice. Improvisation is a vital part of jazz and we will be discussing improvisational techniques through theory and analysis. This is a yearlong course and open to all students regardless of experience with an instrument or jazz.	2 Arts	All students
Introduction to Drawing	How can you create the illusion of 3-D space on a flat piece of paper? Learn fundamental drawing techniques emphasizing realism: proportion, perspective, drawing from life, shading, etc, using a variety of drawing materials like pencil, charcoal, and ink.	0.5 Arts	All students
Clay Sculpture*	Students explore clay sculpting and hand-building techniques in the creation of a series of sculpture and pottery projects.	0.5 Arts	Prerequisite: Any introductory art class
Math Art	Students will explore math and art in this quarter-long elective art class. Topics will include: tessellations, origami, hyperbolic string patterns, and other amazing math art projects!	0.5 Arts	All students



Elective

Course title	Course description	Credit	Open to
Bridge Building	Learn about the bridges of New York City and around the world before constructing your own model bridge out of balsa wood. Students will work in pairs to build a miniature bridge and test their strength by demolishing them. Strongest bridge wins!	0.5 Elective	All students

Physical Education

10-12th grade placement was determined by the spring 2026 physical education survey and all 10-12th graders were emailed their course placement.

In school at 8 AM
In school during the school day
Two PSAL sports teams
Run a 5K module
Yoga module
Dance module
Online Physical Education course and logging independent hours



Modules are intensive, nine-week interdisciplinary courses developed around real-world challenges. Modules are designed to develop students' understanding of big ideas and broad global concepts, and their development and application of 21st century skills. Modules are developed with real work and real world challenges in mind. Both the content and skills students learn each day contribute to their understanding of the task or challenge, provide content-related context, and enable them to complete the challenge with a high level of quality.

Module Course Offerings

<u>Course title</u>	<u>Course description</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Open to</u>
Comics*	Memoir comics have transformed the medium from one dominated by superheroes to one used by journalists and artists to tell their personal stories. In this course, students will learn how cartoonists depict historical, social and personal narratives in sequential art. Students will develop their own comic drawing style and create their own personally meaningful memoir comic. The final student-created comics will then be sold at a comic book store in NYC!	1 Arts	All students
Graphic Design	Graphic design utilizes creativity and technology to visually communicate ideas or messages. This communication can be in the form of printed materials, architectural signs and graphics, exhibition environments, packaging, and electronic media. Properly applied, effective design—design that solves specific problems—can influence individual and group behavior, public policy, and even society. In this module, students will learn the principles and elements of design and typography while developing Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator skills. Throughout the course, students will be given challenging real-world projects typical of the graphic design industry and use their skills and knowledge to create design briefs to meet the needs of clients.	1 Arts	All students

Theater Production	Step into the world of live theater as we bring <i>You Can't Take It With You</i> (a light-hearted comedy/romance) to the stage! In this hands-on course, you'll take on multiple roles—most students will act and contribute to behind-the-scenes elements like set design, costumes, or tech. This production calls for a strong commitment to character development and emotional truth, so get ready to explore storytelling with heart. Class time will serve as our primary rehearsal and production space, so consistent attendance, active participation, and a strong commitment to the ensemble process are essential. No experience needed—just creativity, collaboration, and a willingness to dive in!	0.5 English, 0.5 Arts	All students
iNews: Feature Writing	Are you interested in profiling a friend, writing about a beloved clothing brand, or reviewing a popular TV series? Journalists oftentimes report breaking news, but they also spend time writing feature articles that illuminate stories, often in human terms. These stories are not only based on facts but include interesting anecdotes that show rather than tell the information that is conveyed. In this course, iNews reporters will learn how to write compelling feature articles about topics that appeal to the NYC iSchool community on <i>The iNews Network</i> .	1 English	All students
Literary Magazine*	In this creative writing module, students will write daily and have the chance to freely explore a wide-variety of writing styles, including (but not necessarily limited to) short-stories, poetry, and literary nonfiction. Students will ultimately choose pieces for submission to a printed magazine. Everyone will also create smaller individual 'zines, showcasing a variety of work from throughout the quarter.	1 English	All students

Speak THIS!	Students in Speak THIS! will deliver a five-minute-long speech. By focusing on the development of their confidence, authenticity, and passion — as well as their ability to engage the audience and be introspective about what they're saying — students will move closer toward presenting a dynamic public speaking persona. They will be evaluated in the class by both the teacher and their peers, and they will also perform for a panel of upperclassmen during an evening of performances at the end of the quarter.	1 English	Required for 9th and 10th grade students
Writing Fiction: Humor*	Think you're funny, kid? Well, come give it a shot! This class will establish a safe and supportive environment to allow you to take risks and try out your funniest written material. Being funny in writing is <i>hard</i> . And yet, most of the stuff we find funny (from SNL to your favorite content creator) is first written down. In this course, we will read great humor writing to mentor our own. Throughout the quarter, you'll produce multiple different types of humor writing and choose a single, significant project to showcase by the end of the course. Bring your best jokes and your most serious work ethic — writing good jokes is no laughing matter!	1 English	All students
Food Revolution	Students will develop their knowledge of nutrition and sustainable farming to expand the iSchool's rooftop garden into a teaching garden to inform the iSchool community about nutrition, the food system, and sustainable farming practices.	1 Health	<i>Students who took the Nutrition and Food Justice elective are not eligible for this module.</i>
Rube Goldberg Machines	In this class, you will design and build a machine to solve a simple problem in the most complicated, funny way possible. We'll be following in the footsteps of Rube Goldberg, a cartoonist and engineer famous for designing	1 Physical Science	All students



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	such wacky, complex inventions. In this class, you will engineer a Rube Goldberg device of your own design and calculate — using principles we'll study from chemistry and physics — the amount of each type of energy your machine uses at each step.		
Forensics*	A crime has been committed. A crime scene has been isolated. But what happens next? How do we process and interpret evidence? In this module, we will learn how we can use science to solve crimes. We will incorporate biology, anatomy, chemistry, and physics and look at the different technologies used to examine evidence. Then we will apply our understanding of this science to our own interpretation of example evidence.	1 Physical Science	All students
iAdvocate: Combating Ageism	How can our government work better to improve our lives, and the lives of our older neighbors? Your challenge is, initially, to identify problems that concern you personally at the local and national level, researching the ways in which they are being addressed by your representatives. Working with the non-profit DOROT organization (Hebrew for “generations”), you will then share these issues with older adults and together explore the specific problem of ageism, a form of discrimination that is more prevalent in our society than we may think. At the end of the quarter, groups will design different solutions and campaigns to combat major inter-generational issues, then share finished work at a final presentation attended by community stakeholders.	1 Government	All students
Government and You	In this module students will explore and research about issues currently impacting them, our communities and our country in order to create a documentary film that responds to the prompt: "If you were a newly elected member of Congress, which issue would be your first priority and why?" In the process of addressing this question students will have to think critically, collaborate,	1 Government	All students



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	and be ready to push themselves out of their comfort zones as they produce their unique short-documentaries. Besides becoming researchers about the issues they believe most impact our lives today, students will work towards developing and honing their film-producing, and editing skills.		
Hidden NYC*	What amazing NYC history do we walk past each day? In this module, we will go outside to look for the signs of NYC's past all around us. We will dig into resources like photo archives, census records, and personal stories to help us understand how the neighborhoods we walk through daily have changed. And then we will put it together to tell the hidden stories of a nearby neighborhood on a one-night-only walking tour for family and friends led by you!	1 US History	All students
Model United Nations	Do you have what it takes to solve some of our most pressing global issues? In this module, you will step into the shoes of delegates to the United Nations and participate in discussion, debate, negotiation, and collaboration as you work to find solutions to some of the world's most challenging problems. Delegates will research world challenges of the past and present and develop creative solutions that you will share both in speech and writing.	1 Global History	All students
Displacing Borders	Across the globe, there are currently more than 150 border disputes. Some disputes have been distantly simmering for centuries, while others have erupted in violent bloodshed, spurred displacement of peoples, and initiated campaigns of genocide. Media is often saturated by the fear instilled by these conflicts, but we seldom consider the purpose of borders, or why one border is more militarized than the other. This course will examine how borders around the world are created and destroyed, and will question the legal, social, and ethical implications	1 Global History	All students



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	of sustaining and defending those man-made lines. Students will propose policy solutions using pertinent information from their elected case study in a class symposium.		
Untold Stories	What we know about history depends greatly on whose stories we hear and learn about in school. But what about the untold stories? What would happen if our history studies in school included more diverse stories and perspectives? How might our society change if collectively we more deeply understood all of the diverse perspectives related to an event. In this course, we will dive into the untold stories of historical events that are not typically taught in schools and unpack why these stories are too often omitted.	1 US History	All students
Run a 5K	This course will get your body and mind moving. Students will learn about running technique, how to create an individualized training schedule and about healthy eating. Students will be running together outside 4 days a week and focusing on technique, pacing and achieving personal fitness goals. The training that we do leads up to running in an official 5K race.	1 Physical Education	<i>This course was filled in spring 2026 and all registered students have been notified.</i>
Dance	This introductory dance course will provide a foundation in dance, focusing on basic steps, terminology, and fundamental techniques for all types of dancing levels. With professional dancers and teaching artists, students will explore various dance styles and movement principles.	1 Physical Education	<i>This course was filled in spring 2026 and all registered students have been notified.</i>