



High School Course Catalog 2021 - 2022



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BPCS Promotion, Grading, and other policies that pertain to academics are in the Brooklyn Prospect Student and Family Handbook.

Brooklyn Prospect Graduation Requirements

Understanding Credits

Brooklyn Prospect offers three types of courses: Full-year, 5-day per-week courses; semester, 5-day per-week courses; and Full-year 2-or-3-day per-week courses. Credits are awarded at the completion of each semester for grades of 65 or higher. The credit breakdown is as follows:

Category	Credits per Semester / Year	Course Examples
FY/5-day per-week	1 / 2	Core academic courses
Semester/5-day per-week	1 / 1	Arts electives / Economics
FY/2- or 3-day per-week	0.5 / 1	PE/Dance, Advisory, Government, Health

Required Credits for Graduation

All students are required to pursue a Brooklyn Prospect Diploma with Regents, which requires coursework beyond a New York State Regents Diploma. The Brooklyn Prospect Diploma prepares students to transition to a 4-year college after graduation.

Subject	Required Credits for a BPCS Diploma with Regents	Required Credits for a NYS Regents Diploma**
English	8	8
Global History	4	4
US History	2	2
Government	1	1
Economics	1	1
Math-Advanced (Alg2 or Geo)	2	2
Math-Other	6	4
Science-Life	2	2
Science-Physical	2	2
Science-Other	4	2
World Language (LOTE)	6	2
Art	2	2
Elective	3	7
Physical Education	4	4
Health	1	1
Total	48	44

**A student may be approved to have the Brooklyn Prospect Diploma requirements waived in lieu of the NYS Regents Diploma at the midpoint of 11th grade if either of the following apply: A disability or medical/mental health condition inhibits the ability to be successful in the BPCS requirements or persistent failure has made it impossible to graduate on-time with a BPCS Diploma. Students cannot opt-in to the NYS Regents Diploma.

Exam Requirements for Graduation with a BPCS Diploma with Regents or NYS Regents Diploma

Students must earn a 65% or higher on 5 Regents Exams, including one from each of the following categories:

- English (Common Core English)
- History (Global History or United States History)
- Mathematics (Algebra 1, Algebra 2, or Geometry)
- Science (Living Environment, Chemistry, Earth Science, or Physics)
- +1 (additional exam from the categories listed above or LOTE)

Exam requirements for a BPCS Diploma with Advanced Regents or NYS Regents with Advanced Distinction

Students must pass 9 exams as outlined below:

- Common Core English
- Global History
- United States History
- Algebra 1
- Algebra 2
- Geometry
- Living Environment
- Earth Science OR Physics OR Chemistry
- LOTE

BPCS is primarily focused on students earning a Brooklyn Prospect Diploma with Regents as well as meeting International Baccalaureate (IB) standards. As a result, our IB Diploma Program and advanced level courses are not specifically aligned with the Regents exam. Students wishing to pursue the Brooklyn Prospect Diploma with Advanced Regents should schedule a meeting with their Guidance Counselor during the 10th grade year to discuss the



Required Courses by Grade

Students in all grade levels are required to carry a schedule that includes an English, Humanities, Math, Science, World Language, and Arts/Elective course each year. There is some choice within each category, but some courses and sequences are required. Reference the chart below to determine the timing of these specific required courses. If a subject is not listed here, that indicates that there is choice within that subject. If students do not pass the course listed below during the school year, they will be required to attend summer school to recover the missing credit.

Subject	Course Name	Grade Level
English	Literature, Texts, & Composition	9
English	Literary & Non-Literary Genres	10
English	IB Lang/Lit HL YR 1 & 2	11 & 12 (2 year course)
Humanities	Global History 1 & 2	9 & 10
Humanities	IB History HL YR 1 & 2**	11 & 12 (2 year course)
Humanities	Government	10 (Co2023-Co2025) 10, 11 or 12 (Co2022)
Humanities	Economics	10 (Co2023-Co2025) 10, 11 or 12 (Co2022)
Math	Algebra 1	9 (unless passed in 8th)
Math	Algebra 2*	10
Math	IB Math Applications OR IB Math Analysis***	11 & 12 (2 year course)
Science	Living Environment	9 (unless passed in 8th)
Science	Chemistry*	10
Science	IB ESS, IB SEHS, IB Physics, OR IB Bio***	11 & 12 (2 year course)
PE/Health	Health	9
PE	Intro to Fitness 9 or Dance 9	9
PE	Intro to Fitness 10 or Dance 10	10
PE	Fit for Life 1 or IB Dance	11
PE	Fit for Life 2 or IB Dance	12

*If a student fails to earn credit in these courses, attending summer school is typically recommended but not required.

**Students in the class of 2022 may have taken US History in place of IB History.

***IB Math & Science classes do not have credit recovery opportunities in summer school.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Requirements

The IBDP begins in the 11th grade and students complete the requirements listed below over a two-year period. The IB Diploma is awarded to eligible students in July of the senior year, after the student has earned their Brooklyn Prospect Diploma with Regents Distinction.

IBDP Course Requirements

Students pursuing an IB Diploma must complete a course in each of the following six IB Subject Groups. (Students who do not wish to pursue an Arts class may double up in another Subject Group.)

Group 1: Studies in Language and Literature (English)

Group 2: Language Acquisition (World Language)

Group 3: Individuals and Societies (Humanities)

Group 4: Sciences

Group 5: Mathematics

Group 6: The Arts

At least three of these courses must be taken at the Higher Level (HL). Additionally, at least four courses, including all HL courses, must be studied over two years. Students who do not earn a 65% in year 1 of classes required for graduation may be asked to withdraw from the full Diploma Program. The IB mark for each course ranges from a 1-7 and is a combined score of both an internally-graded/ externally-moderated "Internal Assessment" and an externally-graded "External Assessment." In addition to the 6 IB courses, students must complete Core Requirements, which include hours in CAS (Creativity, Activity, and Service), an Extended Essay (EE), and an inquiry-based course called Theory of Knowledge (TOK).

To earn the IB Diploma, students must do the following:

- Earn a minimum of 24 total points
 - ◆ At least 12 points from HL courses
 - ◆ At least 9 points from SL courses
- Complete CAS requirements
- Earn at least a D in TOK and EE

**There are several other rules associated with earning the IB diploma, that can be found on www.ibo.org under a search of "General Regulations: Diploma Programme"

IB Course Candidates

Students do not need to enroll in the entire IBDP to take IB courses. IB courses in each subject area are available to all 11th and 12th grade students. Criteria for specific IB classes are detailed in the Course Description section of this catalog.

Students who enroll in an IB class as a Course Candidate, must complete the required hours of study, the Internal Assessment, and sit for the External Assessment at the completion of the course to receive an official IB certificate.

All students in IB courses will take a final exam during the IB exam period. Although it is highly recommended that all students enrolled in IB courses take the official IB External Assessment, students may opt to take an exam set by their BPCS teacher. Students who take this option will not receive an IB Certificate for the course.

IBDP Entry by Cohort

2025	2023 & 2024	
	Full IB Diploma Program (IBDP)	Modified BPCS Program (BPCS)
<p>All Students will be automatically enrolled in the IB Diploma program at the start of 11th grade and will be scheduled for all IB requirements.</p>	<p>Students must meet the qualifications listed below. If they meet those qualifications, entry to IBDP is optional. Students indicate commitment to program on Course Request form at the end of 10th grade.</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At the start of 11th grade, the student must have earned the following credits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4 English ○ 4 Global History ○ 1 Government ○ 1 Economics ○ 2 Algebra 2 ○ 2 Living Environment ○ 2 Chemistry ● Additionally, they must have passed or earned Exemptions in at least 3 Regents exams (Algebra 1, Living Environment, and Global History) <p>11th & 12th Grade Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6 IB Classes, as outlined in the requirements on page 6 ● Theory of Knowledge Class ● Participation in CAS and the Extended Essay ● Required to complete all Internal & External Assessments for each class 	<p>Students who do not meet qualifications for IBDP will be automatically enrolled in our BPCS program.</p> <p>Students who do meet IBDP qualifications can opt-in to this program of study by indicating it on their course request form.</p> <p>11th & 12th Grade Program of Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● IB Language & Literature (English) and IB History of the Americas are required ● Students may take IB Spanish or Mandarin if appropriate, or may take Spanish levels 1-4 or Mandarin levels 2-4, if appropriate ● Students will take IB Math, unless they have not earned two credits in Algebra 2. ● Students will take IB Science, unless they have not earned two credits in Chemistry ● Students can opt to take an IB group 6 course or to take a study hall so long as they have met all other BPCS graduation requirements ● Students are required to participate in a modified version of CAS and the Extended Essay via a Service Learning course.

**The class of 2022 will continue with their current program of study.

Course Descriptions by Subject Group

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Group 1: English

Literature, Texts, and Composition

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 2 English Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Literature, Texts, and Composition is a rigorous college preparatory course in which students will read, discuss and respond to increasingly complex literary and non-literary texts—including speeches, non-fiction articles, short stories, novels, dramatic works, and poems—that represent a variety of cultures. Writing instruction will help students make strategic choices about language, structure, and argument in order to produce clear, persuasive and interesting writing. Students will develop the literacy skills that will support their success across all disciplines and allow them to communicate successfully by aligning their purpose, audience and mode of expression. Previously studied works include: *Of Mice and Men*, *Sing Unburied Sing*, *The Odyssey*, *Catcher in the Rye*, *Persepolis*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Master Harold and the Boys*, and selected short stories, speeches, and poems from authors of world-wide origins.

Literary and Non-Literary Genres

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 2 English Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Literary and Non-Literary Genres will prepare students as active readers, critical thinkers and accurate writers through the study of literature and non-literary texts—short stories, propaganda, novels, advertisements, dramatic works, memoirs and poems—from a variety of time periods and cultural origins. Students will explore complex texts through discussion and extensive writing assignments designed to cultivate the ability to interpret literary and stylistic elements and write substantive analysis. Special attention will be paid to developing an academic vocabulary and the skill of close-reading—the focused re-reading of shorter passages to produce a detailed analysis of the effect of the author's choices about language, structure and meaning. Students will have opportunities to write creatively and will routinely present work to their class for both feedback and celebration. Previously studied works include: *Fahrenheit 451*, *Night*, *Frankenstein*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, *Julius Caesar*, as well as short stories and poems by Junot Diaz, Amy Tan, Ursula LeGuin, Amiri Baraka, Anne Waldman, Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Sylvia Plath and others.

Note: Students will take the Common Core English Regents exam up completion of this course (June or the sophomore year)

IB Language & Literature HL Year 1 & 2 (IB Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Levels: 11th and 12th

Credit: 2 English Credits (11), 2 English Credits (12)

2-year, 5-day per week course

IB Lang/Lit HL Year 1 is the first year of a two-year course, with prescribed syllabus topics spread across the four semesters. The course is designed to help students be successful on the IB Language and Literature exam at the end of the second year. In year one, students will read and discuss fictional and nonfictional texts from a variety of genres. Students will consider how language affects our perception of gender and race, engage in critical literary analysis of novels and a drama, and conduct rhetorical analysis. They will recognize how meaning is generated by the particular context of a text's production and reception. At the conclusion of the junior year, students will complete their Internal Assessment- an Oral for which they are required to plan, research, present and discuss an analysis of the relationship between an international issue of the students' choice.

In year two students will focus on their development of an understanding of "critical literacy"--the awareness of the role of each text's wider context in shaping its meaning--and will investigate how language sustains or challenges ways of thinking and being. Students will select topics for, research and write essays that explore how authors

create meaning in literary or non-literary texts and the effects of the author's choices. Previously taught and possible texts include: *The Fire Next Time*, *Half a Yellow Sun*, *Macbeth*, *Tartuffe*, *The Great Gatsby*, *The Crucible*, *The Handmaid's Tale*, *The Bluest Eye*, *Persepolis*, *Cinderella Ate my Daughter*, *The Color Purple*, *The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum*, *The Quiet American*, *Fire in the Lake*, and the poetry of Robert Frost, Audre Lorde, and Pablo Neruda, among others.

Group 2: Language Acquisition (World Language)

Spanish I

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Credit: 2 LOTE or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Introduction to grammar and practical vocabulary necessary for fundamental communication skills. Focused development of essential listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills will be covered. It is expected that students in this class will develop fluency with essential vocabulary (greetings, numbers, days and months, time, family terms, homes and furniture, description of people, daily routine) and key grammatical structures (present tense verbs, expressing basic opinions, noun-adjective agreement, basic word order for statements and questions). Everyday class-work includes practicing new vocabulary and grammar and applying these studies to practical, real-life situations, such as finding your way around a city, explaining your symptoms to a doctor, haggling over prices in a market, inviting a friend to a movie, and telling stories about past experiences.

Spanish II

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Credit: 2 LOTE or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

This course continues the development of basic speaking, listening, reading and writing skills in Spanish, along with the study of the cultures of Spanish speaking peoples. The focus of this class will be practical: how to improve your oral competencies in the target language. There will be extensive practice and activities (songs, tongue twisters, poetry, etc.), along with some readings, to help you further develop essential speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills.

Prerequisite: Student needs to maintain a year long average 65% in Spanish 1 or score 55-64% on the BPCS Middle School Placement Test.

Spanish III

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Credit: 2 LOTE or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

This course uses Intermediate level vocabulary to elicit conversation and debate among the class. Writing and presentations are required. This class consists of advanced practice of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Prerequisite: Student needs to maintain a year long average 65% in Spanish 2 or score a 65% or higher on the BPCS Middle School Placement Test

Spanish IV

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Credit: 2 LOTE or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Building on the foundational work of the previous phases, this course will continue to develop skill across all domains, while refining students' oral proficiency. Additionally, this course is an introduction to literary criticism. It will center around topics and skills needed to take IB Spanish SL/HL. . The class culminates with all students taking the LOTE Regents in Spanish.

Prerequisite: Student needs to maintain a year long average of a 65% in Spanish 3.

IB Spanish ab initio Year 1 & 2 (IB Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 4 LOTE or Elective credits (2 credits earned in 11th; 2 credits earned in 12th)

Full-year, 5-day per week course

A two-year capstone experience, this course will tie together students' previous work, while pushing the frontiers of students' oral, written, listening, and writing skills. In addition to refining students' abilities, the focus of this course will be to help students weave their in-class learning into the patchwork of the larger world around them. Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Prerequisite: Student has completed Spanish II or lower prior to entry.

IB Spanish SL Year 1 & 2 (IB Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 4 LOTE or Elective credits (2 credits earned in 11th; 2 credits earned in 12th)

2-year, 5-day per week course

This is a two-year course conducted entirely in Spanish where students will examine, in depth, the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world through reading of authentic texts and viewing of films in the target language. . Students will strengthen their interactive, receptive and productive skills while gaining intercultural understanding. In addition, the course will discuss topics which are connected to five IB Language B themes: identities, experiences, social organization, human ingenuity, and how we share the planet. . Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Prerequisite: Student has completed at least Spanish III with a 65% average for the year in the course.

IB Spanish HL Year 1 & 2 (IB Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 4 LOTE or Elective credits (2 credits earned in 11th; 2 credits earned in 12th)

2-year, 5-day per week course

This is a two-year course conducted entirely in Spanish where students will examine, in depth, the literature and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world via authentic texts. Students will strengthen their interactive, receptive and productive skills while gaining understanding of literature and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Two complete pieces of literature written in the target language will be studied in the class. In addition, the course will study topics connected to five IB Language B themes: identities, experiences, social organization, human ingenuity, and how we share the planet. Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Prerequisite: Student has maintained a yearlong average of 80% or higher in Spanish IV or has received approval from the World Language Department Head.

Mandarin II

Grade Level: 9 -12

Credits: 2 LOTE Electives

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Focused on honing skills and expanding vocabulary from the first-year course, this class is designed to help students solidify their basic understanding of Mandarin. Furthermore, the class will begin to push students to move past language used during daily exchanges and develop their ability to express increasingly abstract thoughts.

Prerequisite: Student needs to maintain a year long average 65% in Mandarin 1 or scored 55-64% on the BPCS Middle School Placement Test

Mandarin III

Grade Level: 9 -12

Credits: 2 LOTE or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

This course uses Intermediate-Advanced level readings to elicit conversation and debate among the class. Writing and presentations are required. This class consists of advanced practice of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Prerequisite: Student needs to maintain a year long average 65% in Mandarin 2 or scored a 65% or higher on the BPCS Middle School Placement Test

Mandarin IV

Grade Level: 9 -12

Credits: 2 LOTE or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Building on the foundational work of the previous phases, this course will continue to develop skill across all domains, while refining students' oral proficiency. Additionally, this course is an introduction to literary criticism. It will center around concepts and skills needed to take IB Mandarin SL. . The class culminates with all students taking the LOTE Regents Checkpoint B in Mandarin.

Prerequisite: Student maintains a year long average of a 65% in Mandarin 3.

IB Mandarin SL Year 1 and 2 (IB Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 9 -12

Credits: 4 LOTE or Elective credits (2 credits earned in 11th; 2 credits earned in 12th)

2-year, 5-day per week course

This is a two-year course where students will examine, in depth, the cultures of the Mandarin-speaking world via authentic texts and films in the target language. Students will strengthen their interactive, receptive and productive skills while gaining intercultural understanding. In addition, the course will discuss topics which are connected to be divided into five IB Language B themes: identities, experiences, social organization, human ingenuity, and how we share the planet. Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Mandarin III with a 65% or higher yearlong average.

Group 3: Individuals & Societies (Humanities)

Global Studies I

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 2 Humanities Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Global Studies I is the first year of a two year curriculum that prepares students for the Global History and Geography Regents exam. Students will focus on developing the skills of a historian in sourcing, contextualizing, analyzing and corroborating evidence-based conclusions. With explicit practice accessing both primary and secondary sources, students will develop the effective inquiry skills necessary to achieve conceptual understanding of the content. Through this work, students will recognize patterns in the interactions and interdependence of individuals, societies and environments across time and space. Topics include but are not limited to: The Golden Ages of: the Medieval Americas, the Islamic Empire, the Mongol Empire, and Renaissance Europe as well as the Silk Road, Exploration, Columbian Exchange, Transatlantic Slave Trade, Scientific Revolution, Enlightenment, and French and Haitian Revolutions. The course culminates with an in-depth research assignment.

Global Studies II

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 2 Humanities Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Global Studies II is the second year in a two year curriculum that will prepare students for the Global History and Geography Regents exam, which students will take at the conclusion of this course. Students will explore the conditions, causes and outcomes of major global revolutions, including but not limited to: the Industrial Revolution, the French Revolution, and the Communist Revolutions in China, Cuba, and Russia. Students will also study key events in Global History such as Imperialism, WWI, WWII, the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, Post-Colonial Independence Movements in India and Africa, and Modern Issues and Current Events. Students will be prepared to write clear, well-organized and well-supported historical analyses and will conduct focused historical research on course topics.

Participation in Government and Civics

Grade Level: 10 (all students); 12 (students who have not previously taken it)

Credits: 1 Humanities Credits

Semester Long, 5-day per week course OR Full Year, 2- or 3-day per week course

Participation in Government examines the citizen's rights, roles, and responsibilities within the U.S. Federal system, viewing the subject through the lens of current events, real-life court cases, federal reports, and other primary sources as students build a greater understanding of the U.S. government. Students are responsible for conducting effective research methods and utilizing relevant sources to engage in discussion or writing tasks in which they provide their own perspectives on a range of topics involving the U.S. Government and its impacts on society such as Federalism, the First Amendment, Gun Rights, the Super Rich, Political Parties, Policing, and Voting Rights. By the course's conclusion, students will have developed a stronger understanding of the active role they can play as a citizen within the U.S. government.

Participation in Government may be completed by APEX online coursework in grades 10-12 for students enrolled in the IB Diploma Program.

Economics of Free Enterprise in a Global Society

Grade Level: 10 (all students); 12 (students who have not previously taken it)

Credits: 1 Humanities Credits

Semester Long, 5-day per week course

In the semester-long Economics course, students will be analyzing and evaluating economic strategies of individuals, nations, groups and corporations. Students will specifically study personal finance, game theory, corporate social responsibility, gender/ race wealth gaps and the labor market. This analysis will be through the lens of social justice, in which we identify and analyze the inequities that are at play in the economic structure of the United States. Students will also engage in activist thinking and action based on their own analysis throughout the course.

Economics of Free Enterprise in a Global Economy may be completed by APEX online coursework in grades 10-12 for students enrolled in the IB Diploma Program in graduating classes 2021 and 2022,

IB History HL Year 1 & 2 (DP Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 and 12

Credits: 2 US History Humanities credits (Year 1); 2 Elective credits (Year 2)

2-year, 5-day per week course

IB History is a two-year course, with prescribed syllabus topics spread across the four semesters. The course is designed to help students be successful on the IB History (HL) exam at the end of year two.

In this first year of a two-year sequence, students in IB HL History Year 1: History of the Americas will begin by investigating the colonial era followed by independence movements in the United States and Latin America following their colonial foundations. Students will examine the Founder's arguments in the debate about the ratification of the Constitution and the subsequent strength and weakness of this transformative document. Students will then investigate the parallel developments of abolitionist sentiment, Westward Expansion, and American slavery, which resulted in a sectional division that led to disunion in law, economics, society and politics and culminated in the Civil War and Reconstruction. Next, students will examine the key turning points in the early 20th century such as the

Progressive Era and the global conditions that led to the Great Depression and how countries in the Americas grappled with its impacts. Students will then explore both the domestic and foreign impact of U.S. Foreign Policy between 1880 and 1973. Students will conclude the year by exploring the origins and impact of Social Movements of the 1950's, 1960's, 1970's. The course culminates with an in-depth IB style research based historical investigation as well as the US History and Government Regents Exam.

In year 2 (12th Grade) students focus on developments across the globe from 1800-2000, specifically those involving post-colonial conflicts. The course begins with global independence movements, specifically Haiti, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe and asking ourselves what makes fledgling nation states successful. Next, students examine authoritarian governments under Adolf Hitler in Germany, Mao Zedong in China, and Gamal Abdel Nasser in Egypt. This is followed by continuing to study Rights and Protests began in year two but now with the focus on the fight against Apartheid. The course also involves students completing the IB Internal Assessment for History, which is an in-depth research assignment: Historical Investigation requirement over the course of the fall and winter. The course culminates with the IB HL History Exam. Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the full Diploma Program or a minimum average of 75% in Global History 10 as well as minimum score of 65% on the Global History Regents Exam.

IB Psychology HL Year 1 & 2 (DP Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 and 12

Credits: 4 Elective Credits (2 per year)

2-year, 5-day per week course

IB Psychology HL is a two-year course in the systematic study of behavior and mental processes that examines the interaction of biological, cognitive and sociocultural influences on human behavior. Students can expect to develop an understanding of how psychological knowledge is generated, developed and applied, allowing them to have a greater understanding of themselves and appreciate the diversity of human behavior. The holistic approach reflected in the curriculum, which sees biological, cognitive and sociocultural analysis being taught in an integrated way ensures that students are able to develop an understanding of what all humans share, as well as the immense diversity of influences on human behavior and mental processes. The ethical concerns raised by the methodology and application of psychological research are also key considerations of the IB psychology course. Students in Year 1 will complete their IB Internal Assessment for Psychology, which has them create, conduct, and evaluate their own Psychological Experiment. The course culminates Year 2 with the IB HL Psychology Exam. *Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.*

Group 4: Science

Living Environment & Lab

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 2 Life Science Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Living Environment is an introductory biology course that includes a 1,200 minute laboratory component. The course provides students with a strong foundation in understanding the structure and function of living organisms, as well as their interactions within environmental systems. This course aligns with the New York State Core Curriculum and is specifically designed to prepare students for the Living Environment Regents Exam. All students taking Living Environment are required to take the Regents Exam in June. In this course, students will practice scientific inquiry and study topics including cell structure/function, basic biochemistry, nutrition, photosynthesis, respiration, mitosis, meiosis, genetics, protein synthesis, evolution, classification, plants, animals, body systems, ecology, and human impacts on the environment.

Chemistry & Lab

Grade Level: 9 - 10

Credits: 2 Physical Science Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

The Chemistry course prepares students for the International Baccalaureate program through alignment with New York State Standards for Chemistry and pre-requisite lab work. In this course, students will use scientific processes and principles to make informed personal and public decisions. Topics to be studied include matter and energy, gas laws, atomic concepts, acids/bases, chemical bonding, periodicity, chemical bonding, kinetics, nuclear and organic chemistry. Students will complete weekly labs.

IB Environmental Systems and Societies SL (IB Subject Brief Linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 or 12

Credits: 2 Life Science or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

IB Environmental Systems & Societies is a one-year, standard-level IB course focusing on environmental systems from a multidisciplinary perspective. Grounded in scientific content and methods, this course challenges students to understand environmental issues from socio-political and ethical standpoints, as well. Topics include systems thinking; ecosystem dynamics; population, carrying capacity, and resource use; conservation and biodiversity; global warming; pollution management; and environmental value systems.

Prerequisite:

IB Sports, Exercise, and Health Science SL (IB Subject Brief Linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 or 12

Credits: 2 Life Science or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

The attainment of excellence in sport is the result of innate ability or skill and the dedicated pursuit of a programme of physical and mental training accompanied by appropriate nutrition. Training programme design should not be left to chance. Rather, it should be designed thoughtfully and analytically after careful consideration of the physiological, biomechanical and psychological demands of the activity. This is the role of the sport and exercise scientist who, regardless of the athletic event, should be equipped with the necessary knowledge to be able to perform this task competently. The Diploma Programme course in sports, exercise and health science involves the study of the science that underpins physical performance and provides the opportunity to apply these principles. The course incorporates the traditional disciplines of anatomy and physiology, biomechanics, psychology and nutrition, which are studied in the context of sport, exercise and health. Students will cover a range of core and option topics and carry out practical (experimental) investigations in both laboratory and field settings. This will provide an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and understanding necessary to apply scientific principles and critically analyse human performance. Where relevant, the course will address issues of international dimension and ethics by considering sport, exercise and health relative to the individual and in a global context.

IB Physics SL Year 1 & 2 (IB Subject Brief Linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Credits: 4 Physical Science or Elective Credits (2 earned in 11th; 2 earned in 12th)

2-year, 5-day per week course

International Baccalaureate Physics SL is a two year course in classical and modern physics. Problem solving, reasoning and lab investigation skills will be emphasized. The difficulty of the course is comparable to an introductory physics course at a university. IB Physics culminates in three timed, externally graded exams during the second year of the course as well as an Internal Assessment, called an "Investigation". More details on assessment and course topics can be found in the Subject Brief linked above.

Prerequisite: Successful completion/2 credits earned in Algebra 2 AND Successful completion/ 2 credits earned in Chemistry

IB Biology HL Year 1 & 2 (IB Subject Brief Linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Credits: 4 Life Science or Elective Credits (2 earned in 11th; 2 earned in 12th)

2-year, 5-day per week course

IB Biology is a challenging, **two-year**, higher-level IB course in which students develop a deep understanding of biological concepts including cell structure and function, genetics, evolution, ecology, human health and physiology, nucleic acids and proteins, cell respiration and photosynthesis, and plant science. Students enrolling in IB Biology HL should have a strong background in math and chemistry, as the course will also include statistical analysis and biochemistry. Biology HL will also cover an additional topic from the following: evolution, neurobiology and behavior, microbes and biotechnology, ecology and conservation, and further human physiology. Students in this course complete 60 hours of lab work, the majority of which is student-directed inquiry. This is the most rigorous science course offered at BPHS, and any student with an interest in majoring in science in college is encouraged to enroll.

Prerequisite: Successful completion/2 credits earned in Chemistry plus a yearlong average of 80% or higher in Chem, Successful completion/2 credits earned in Algebra 2.

Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Group 5: Math

Algebra 1

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 2 Mathematics Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Algebra 1 is a one year course in which students will study one-variable statistics, linear relationships, functions, and quadratic equations. In this problem-based curriculum, students will also engage in aspects of mathematical modeling. Upon completion of the course, students will take the Algebra 1 Regents exam. Students who pass this exam will have met their math requirement for a Regents diploma. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required for this course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 8th grade mathematics course.

Algebra 2

Grade Level: 9 – 10

Credits: 2 Mathematics or Elective Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Algebra 2 is a one year course that is a continuation and extension of topics explored in Algebra 1. Students will study sequences, polynomial and rational functions and their graphs, the complex number system, exponential functions, transformations of functions, trigonometry, and statistical inference. In this problem-based curriculum, students will also engage in aspects of mathematical modeling. Upon the completion of this course, students will be prepared for the updated SAT and higher level math courses, like IB Applications and Interpretations, IB Analysis and Approaches, and college courses. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required for this course. **Note:** Students who wish to take the Algebra 2 Regents exam will be required to study certain topics independently.

Prerequisite: 65% or higher on the Algebra 1 Regents Exam and a 65% or higher year-long course average in Algebra 1.

Introduction to Data Science

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 2 Mathematics Credits

Full-year, 5-day per week course

Introduction to Data Science (IDS) is designed to introduce students to the exciting opportunities available at the intersection of data analysis, computing, and mathematics through hands-on activities. Data are everywhere, and this curriculum will help prepare students to live in a world of data. The curriculum focuses on practical applications of data analysis to give students concrete and applicable skills. Instead of using small, tailored, curated data sets as in a traditional statistics curriculum, this curriculum engages students with a wider world of data that fall into the "Big Data" paradigm and are relevant to students' lives. In contrast to the traditional formula-based approach, in IDS, statistical inference is taught algorithmically, using modern randomization and simulation techniques. Students will learn to find and communicate meaning in data, and to think critically about arguments based on data.

Prerequisite: 65% or higher year-long course average in Algebra 2.

IB Mathematics: Applications and Interpretations SL Year 1 and Year 2 (IB Subject Brief Linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Credits: 2 Mathematics or Elective Credits

2-year, 5-day per week course

Applications and Interpretations is a **two-year** program of advanced mathematical studies designed for students who are interested in developing their mathematics for **describing our world, modelling and solving practical problems using the power of technology**. This course is intended for students who wish to pursue studies in social sciences, natural sciences, medicine, statistics, business, engineering, some economics, psychology, and design at university. This course builds on the concepts of Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 in preparation for the standard-level IB Applications and Interpretations examination in May of students' senior year. Students examine topics in algebra; functions; geometry and trigonometry; statistics and probability; and introductory differential calculus. Students carry out an individual mathematical investigation using skills learned before and during the course.

Prerequisite: 65% or higher on the Algebra 1 Regents Exam and a 65% or higher year-long course average in Algebra 1.

IB Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches SL Year 1 and Year 2 (IB Subject Brief Linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Credits: 4 Mathematics or Elective Credits

2-year, 5-day per week course

Analysis and Approaches is a **two-year** program of advanced mathematical studies designed for students who enjoy developing their mathematics to become fluent in the **construction of mathematical arguments, problem solving, exploring real and abstract applications**, with and without technology, and developing strong skills in **mathematical thinking**. This course is intended for students who wish to pursue studies in mathematics, engineering, physical sciences, and some economics at university (or other subjects that have a large mathematical content). This course builds on the concepts of Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 in preparation for the standard-level IB Analysis and Approaches examination in the spring of students' senior year. Students examine topics in algebra; functions; geometry and trigonometry; statistics and probability; and differential and integral calculus. Students carry out an individual mathematical investigation using skills learned before and during the course.

Prerequisite: An average of 85+ in Geometry or 80+ in Algebra 2. Students must pass the Algebra 1 (or Geometry) Regents with an 80 or higher. Teacher recommendation is required. Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Group 6: Arts

Please be advised that Arts offerings may differ from year to year; the courses listed here may or not be offered every year. Course offerings each year are posted on the course request forms.

Acting for Stage & Screen I

Grade Level: 9 – 10

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 5-day per week course

If you like to perform, this course is for you! This is an introductory course that will offer students instruction in acting skills, stage terminology, character development, improvisation, voice and movement technique, and script analysis. No experience needed! All students will have the opportunity to perform in class for their peers, as well as during the fall/spring High School Arts Showcase as part of their final project for the course.

Acting for Stage & Screen II

Grade Level: 9 – 10

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 5-day per week course

Performance pros, sign up here! This course is for those interested in performing and applying skills and techniques learned in Musical Theater 1. Students will choose, create, or adapt a play or musical to perform in front of an audience. Enjoy ensemble building, improvisational games, acting, voice, and movement techniques, and rehearsal work to put on the performance of a lifetime! All students will have the opportunity to perform in class for their peers, as well as during the fall/spring High School Arts Showcase as part of their final project for the course.

Prerequisite: Acting for Stage & Screen I

Technical Theatre and Design I

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 5-day per week course

This course is a general survey in theatre arts technical production, an exploration of the duties of stage technicians and their contribution to the total aesthetic effect of a dramatic production. Topics covered will include design research and principles; equipment use and maintenance; principles and application of sound, lighting, and computer technology; the use of special effects; costume and makeup considerations and selection; publicity; theatre safety; and the function of technical stage personnel in production work. Each student will also gain knowledge and have practical experience as a stage technician, designing sets, building props, hanging and manipulating lighting & sound instruments/equipment, applying and designing makeup, basic costuming, and the skills necessary for running a production. Technical theatre will incorporate academic study and hands-on application of knowledge and skills.

Technical Theatre and Design II

Grade Level: 10 – 12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 5-day per week course

This course is an extension of skills learned in Technical Theatre and Design I. Students will build upon those skills to specialize in 1-2 areas of theatre arts technical production (stage management, costume, hair/makeup, set design/props and/or lighting design). Students will be expected to support the semester productions from concept to performance and serve as department heads during the technical rehearsal and performance experience under the guidance of the performance coordinator.

Prerequisite: Technical Theatre and Design I

Writing for Stage & Screen I

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 5-day per week course

Creative writers, step right up! This course is for learning and developing writing skills to create theatrical pieces with the intention to perform. Students will study various playmaking formats and read cannon and contemporary plays, then apply techniques and skills to writing several short plays. Develop your creative voice and hone your empathetic skills through dialogue writing for the stage!

Writing for Stage & Screen II

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 5-day per week course

Playwriting II is designed as a studio class where students apply skills and techniques learned in Writing I to produce full length plays. Students will study cannon and contemporary plays, as well as general human behavior, in order to create the most authentic and truthful works. Let your imagination and creativity shine in this supportive environment for cultivating art.

Prerequisite: Writing for Stage & Screen I

IB Theater

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 4-day or 5-day per week course

The IB Theatre is a multifaceted theatre-making course of study. It gives students the opportunity to make theatre as creators, designers, directors and performers. It emphasizes the importance of working both individually and collaboratively as part of an ensemble.

Prerequisite: Any IB 11 or 12th grade student and/or any students who took 2 of either writing and/or acting classes offered in 9th & 10th grade.

Visual Art

Visual Arts 2D - Drawing + Painting

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 4-day or 5-day per week course

Drawing doesn't always come naturally! In this course, you'll learn fundamental drawing techniques to compose and create a variety of still-life and perspective studies. You will also study basic anatomy and proportion as you develop your drawing ability. Paint is one of the most fun and expressive mediums an artist can use. In this class, you'll learn to paint with water-based mediums using a variety of painting techniques. A combination of observation and expressive interpretation will evoke emotion in your pieces, taking them beyond just technically correct works.

Visual Arts - Digital Photography

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 4-day or 5-day per week course

In this introductory course, you will learn the basics of photography and how to communicate a variety of ideas using digital techniques. You will learn the mechanics of a digital camera and professional photographic techniques

including F/stops, shutter speeds, lighting accommodations, depth of field, white balance, exposure settings, and the various types of digital files. The course will also cover the basics of Adobe Photoshop, including image processing, photo retouching, and collage.

**Must have own digital camera (either DSLR or smartphone w/ photo apps)*

Visual Arts 3D - Sculpture/Mixed Media

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 4-day or 5-day per week course

This course introduces you to figurative sculpture focusing on proportion, composition, content, and sensitivity to the subject. You'll learn both representative and interpretive approaches to sculpting the figure while exploring the tools and techniques used in clay sculpture. You will also be creating unique three-dimensional pieces created from sustainable, responsibly sourced, and salvaged materials, including found objects, oven-bakeable clay, paper-mache, fabric, and yarn. You will draw your inspirations from figurative or abstract references sourced from images or actual objects.

Visual Arts Digital -Intro to Film

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 4-day or 5-day per week course

This course is perfect for students who are curious about film making, film theory and film history. Making a film is an exciting and collaborative process. You and your teammates will explore the elements of creating a short film, including scheduling, shooting, editing, and distribution. Groups will use digital cameras to create content to be edited into original digital shorts. Each team member will assume the critical roles required on a production team such as the director, producer, editors, etc. Students will also explore the business of the filmmaker and how to reach the desired audience.

**Must have own digital camera (either smartphone or DSLR w/ video)*

IB Visual Art SL or HL (IB Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 – 12

Credits: 2 Art or Elective Credit

2-year, 4-day per week course

The IB Diploma Program visual arts course encourages students to challenge their own creative and cultural expectations and boundaries. It is a thought-provoking course in which students develop analytical skills in problem-solving and divergent thinking, while working towards technical proficiency and confidence as art-makers. In addition to exploring and comparing visual arts from different perspectives and in different contexts, students are expected to engage in, experiment with and critically reflect upon a wide range of contemporary practices and media. The course is designed for students who want to go on to further study of visual arts in higher education as well as for those who are seeking lifelong enrichment through visual arts.

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval Required

Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

IB Film HL YR 1 and YR 2(IB Subject Brief linked [here](#))

Grade Level: 11 – 12

Credits: 2 Art or Elective Credit

2-year, 4-day per week course

IB Film is a two-year course focused on both critical analysis of film and technical competency of film making. Students study and analyze film text and film-making decisions and explore film history and theory. Students

develop critical thinking skills which enable them to appreciate cultural and historical perspectives in Film, while challenging their own beliefs and biases. Students experiment with film and multimedia technology to develop professional and technical skills needed for creative expression through film. Students work independently and in groups to create a Film Portfolio and Collaborative Film Project. Additional assessments include a textual analysis of film and a recorded comparative study. The Subject Brief (linked above) includes additional information about course aims and content.

Music

Choir I

Course Number: ART107

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Credits: 1 Art of Elective Credit

Semester, 4-day or 5-day per week course

Choir 1 is an introductory level course for students interested in vocal music performance. It is also an outlet for the student who enjoys singing for his/her own pleasure. The following musical skills will be stressed: proper breathing, pleasant vocal production, blend and balance, expansion of range, good intonation, ear training, and sight-reading various styles of choral literature. Participation in school performances is required because they support and extend learning in the classroom. Students may seek one-on-one vocal training during office hours.

Note: This is a vocal music course only; Singers will not involve the study of instruments.

Choir II

Course Number: ART117

Grade Level: 10 – 12

Credits: 1 Art of Elective Credit

Semester, 4-day or 5-day per week course

Choir II is open to students beginning in grade 10. Students study fundamental vocal technique and ensemble singing in a variety of musical styles. The concert choir performs for the school community. Students learn to work and sing in small groups through different exercises and choral compositions. Basic music terminology, theory and history are also taught in the class to ensure students' basic musical knowledge. The following vocal/music skills will be stressed: proper vocal production, blend and balance, sight-reading proficiency, ear training, expansion of range, technical facility, a cappella singing, dynamic nuances and 3 & 4 part music. Students may seek one-on-one vocal training during office hours.

Note: This is a vocal music course only; Singers will not involve the study of instruments. Students can take this course for 1 semester or a full-year.

Prerequisite: Choir 1 or Instructor Approval

Songwriting I & 2

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Credits: 1 Art of Elective Credit

Semester, 4-day or 5-day per week course

In this course we will cover all skills necessary to write, record and make Music and Music Videos. You will learn how to write in verse chorus and AABA songs. Various song forms and basic music literacy will also be covered. Students will use Soundtrap, Finale, Garageband, WeVideo and iMovie to document their work. Students will also learn how to write lyrics and incorporate them into songs as work with outside vocalists to realize them.

Dance

Dance 9

Course Number: PE102

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1 PE Credit, 0.5 Health Credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

9th grade begins a rigorous technical development program and includes persuasive writing for dance by developing a creative eye to describe and analyze dance. Students spend the year in two technique disciplines (Ballet and Modern) to allow more time to develop the physicality necessary to successfully perform the required 9-15 minutes for the DP program in the 12th grade. The incorporation of media and technology introduces students to the many ways that dance information is communicated to the larger community. They learn to create a press release, design a concert poster, create a dance video and learn basic stage production skills to produce a dance concert.

Dance 10

Course Number: PE104

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1 PE Credit, 0.5 Health Credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

A continuation of the technical skill development, 10th grade dance challenges students to find their “voice” within the work that they study and create. Students will select an issue that is important to them and move from conceptual ideas into physicalized movement and structure. Students will also explore the many types of dance careers that exist and the pathways that lead to them. In this year, students will begin to explore how they personally connect to dance and how their interests can guide their future. It is important for them to understand that learning to dance doesn't ONLY lead to a professional dance career and finding their individual voices are essential to developing into an artist and planning for their futures. An emphasis is placed on students solving choreographic design problems by understanding and utilizing the 6 criteria used for evaluating dance.

Prerequisite: Dance 9 or Instructor Approval

11th & 12th Grade

IB Dance HL or SL

Course Number: PE111 & PE112

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Credits: 2 PE credits, 2 Arts or elective credits

Two-year, 5-day per week course

Year 1: During this year of study, students deepen their language to articulate how they process through the creation of a new choreographic work. Through a large and on-going project, students will document every single decision they make while completing their first required DP solo composition. They will also present their compositions for an informal Winter Dance Concert at the end of the semester. 3rd year students will also explore one World Dance form and begin to observe the processes that have and continue to shape movement around the world. They will develop the skills necessary to compare the varying movement forms. IB Assignments include Solo Composition, Duet Composition, Solo Performance, Duet/Trio Performance

Prerequisite: Dance 10 & Instructor Approval

NOTE: A senior student may elect to take IB Dance HL (Year 1), but will NOT receive a certificate of completion.

Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Year 2: In the final year of the dance program students take the skills they have learned and apply this knowledge to novel situations. The class is responsible for producing the Spring Dance Concert (with guidance). In addition to presenting much of the choreography they have created within the DP program, they are also responsible for organizing the production staff, schedule and creating all communication (with assistance/approval and guidance) for the concert to the larger community (press release, newsletter blurbs, poster, program, video excerpts. . .etc.). Even though students are finalizing details for their “final” presentations of choreographic works, performances externally grading assignments, they will be challenged to consider whether the version they present is the “final” product. IB Assignments include Duet/Trio Composition, Composition & Analysis, Dance Comparative Essay, Group Composition

PE & Health

Introduction to Fitness & Team Sports I

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1 PE Credit, 0.5 Health Credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

This is a two-part introductory course to fitness and team sports. In the fall semester, students will be introduced to several fitness modalities, such as strength training, crossfit, high intensity interval training, pilates and yoga to develop a basic understanding of cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and endurance, and flexibility. In the spring semester, students will learn how to collaborate on a team, develop sportsmanship and make a plan/strategy to accomplish a goal, all while developing the basic skills of soccer and volleyball.

Introduction to Fitness & Team Sports II

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1 PE Credit, 0.5 Health Credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

A continuation to Introduction to Fitness and Team Sports, FIT 1 Team 1 is a course that challenges students to focus specifically on strength training and yoga in the 1st semester (fall) as preparation for developing the skills necessary for Basketball and Team Handball in the 2nd semester (spring). Strength training will teach students how to create and maintain their own fitness goals with a mixture of bodyweight exercises and equipment. Students will also be able to assess their own fitness levels and decide what they feel they need to improve on. Yoga is designed to introduce students, safely and accessible, to the basic postures, breathing techniques and relation methods of yoga. Students will begin to experience the benefits of stretching, moving, and breathing freely as they relieve built up stress, learn to relax and ultimately get more out of day to day life.

Fit 4 Life 1

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Credits: 1 PE Credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

Fitness for life is a course designed for students to gain an appreciation for a life continual health. This will be done through various cardiovascular endurance workouts to improve the efficiency of your heart, lungs and circulatory system. This course is also great for burning calories and increasing endurance. Students will learn about and be able to walk/jog/run in different environments and under different conditions. The 2nd semester (Spring) of this course will include an intense program in physical fitness through warm-ups, cardiovascular, and cool-down activities. Activities include (but are not limited to) strengthening and toning, as well as learning about muscles, nutrition and weight control.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Fitness and Team Sports 1 & 2

Fit 4 Life 2

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Credits: 1 PE Credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

If you liked FIT 4 Life 1, then you will definitely enjoy FIT 4 Life 2, a continuation of continual movement! This course also does NOT require completion of FIT 4 Life 1, but it will continue where that course ended. Students now take control of their own fitness. FIT 4 Life II takes cardiovascular endurance workouts to the next level by having students build on their knowledge of muscles, nutrition and weight control to design their own strengthening and toning activities, including warm-ups and cool-downs and walk/jog/run workout plans for different environments and under different conditions, with the consideration of a set end goal.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Fitness and Team Sports 1 & 2

Offsite Athletics (alternative option for Advanced Athletes)

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Credits: 1 PE Credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

Students may be eligible to fulfill their PE requirement through participation in an off-site athletics program. Students who select this option will be enrolled in a school-based PE course and must turn in the "Off-site Athletics Approval Form" within the first two weeks of school. If the Principal approves the program the student will be removed from the PE course. Students must be participating no less than three times per week in one semester and no less than two times per week in the other semester, or alternating two and three days per week throughout the year. Participation in this activity must run the duration of the school calendar, during both semesters, and must total no less than 54 hours. The program must be completed at one location and must include one primary qualified instructor who will regularly communicate with a school official to confirm attendance and participation. The program must include competition (i.e. games or meets) or lead to a final showcase/recital. Classes at local gyms or studios are not acceptable. Students must receive instruction and coaching to improve upon their physical fitness and skill level. Students are responsible for tracking attendance and turning it into the designated school official at the end of each semester.

Note: BPCS does not contribute to the financial support of this program.

Health 9

Grade Level: 9

1.0 credit

Full Year, 2- or 3-day per week course

The goal of Health Education is to help establish patterns of behavior that will assist a person in achieving complete health. This is done by following the NYS health education standards along with updated current facts and current events. Complete health is accomplished by having a balance of physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being. Building a solid foundation of good decision-making skills can contribute to a variety of healthy choices for themselves and others. Development of a healthy body and a healthy mind will assist young people in living active, productive, and successful lives. This course is required for graduation from high school.

Other Electives & Support Classes

IB Theory of Knowledge

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Credit: 1.5 Elective credits

2-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

Theory of Knowledge is a two-year course that is part of the core of the Diploma Programme, along with CAS and the Extended Essay. TOK is a discussion-based course in which students explore the nature of knowledge in a wide variety of fields, including the natural sciences, the human sciences, history, the arts, ethics, and religious knowledge systems. Students learn to identify knowledge questions underlying real-world situations and controversies, and delve into them through discussion with classmates. The role of personal knowledge as well as shared knowledge are considered, and students investigate different ways of knowing, including reason, intuition, imagination, and sense perception. Key assessments include a presentation on a topic of the student's choice and an essay on one of several IB prescribed titles. Students must earn a yearlong average of 65% or higher in Year 1 in order to move on to Year 2.

Service Learning (Final Course Name TBD)

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Credit: 1.5 Elective Credits

2-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

This course is designed to make sure all students have access to the CAS and Extended Essay Programs, even if they are not enrolling in the full IB Diploma Program. The course will focus on helping students identify and pursue passion through a service project and research paper. Students will take this course over three semesters, for the full year in 11th grade and for the first semester of 12th grade.

Advisory: The Brooklyn Prospect high school advisory consists of small groups of students who meet several times a week, led by a staff or faculty member. The advisor serves as a primary point of contact between home and school and supports the advisees in their socio-emotional and academic development. The objectives of advisory are to build strong relationships that augment academic support and coaching. The advisory period offers a variety of activities to help students learn collaboration, explore their role in a diverse, global community, develop persistence in learning, and prepare for postsecondary success. In advisory, students establish a foundation for future goals through career exposure and assistance for the college application process. Across the four years of high school, advisors also guide students in their preparation for MYP and DP requirements such as the Personal Project, CAS, and the EE.

Advisory 9

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1 Elective credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

Frames the next four years of high school and guides 9th graders as they begin to identify their sources of strength and passion, set their educational and social-emotional goals, cultivate class-wide and personal identities as members of the BPCS community, find individual ways to contribute to their communities, and prepare to be candidates for the workforce and competitive higher education programs.

Advisory 10

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 1 Elective credit

Full-year, 2- or 3-day per week course

Spends significant time on the IB Personal Project, an independent work focused on any topic the student's choice. The project may take any form (written, visual art, service project, etc.) and must demonstrate the skills students have developed over the years in the MYP program. Advisors work closely with students to explore their interests, determine a topic, support their progress, and lead them to completion of an original work that is displayed at the annual Personal Project Symposium in late May. The Personal Project is an excellent introduction to the research skills necessary for success on the Extended Essay completed in the 11th and 12th grades.

Advisory 11

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1 Elective credit

Full-year, meets one day in the advisory cycle

Ensures a strong start to the second half of students' high school experience, serving as a time to bond as a cohort, offer support and celebrate each member of the advisory. Students progress toward graduation through a series of skill-building workshops aimed at understanding the college process, crafting an ideal college application list, managing the financial aid process, and preparing for college entrance exams. Students also work alongside their advisors to further develop successful study habits and closely monitor their academic progress through the year.

Introduction to Design Technology

Grade Level: 9 – 10

Credits: 1 Art or Elective Credit

Semester, 5-day per week course

Students in Design & Technology will use the IB design cycle as a process to develop products and solve problems. Projects may include 3D design and printing, computer programming and animation, video game design, LEGO robotics, and more! Students will complete written portfolios documenting the design process.

Academic Lab

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Credit: Not for credit class

Semester, 2- or 3-day per week course or 5-day per week course

Academic Lab is a time in a student's day for independent study. Students are expected to work on homework or spend the time studying or reading. Academic Lab is supervised and attendance is mandatory. Students are only eligible to take Academic Lab in grades 11 and 12.

Literary Connections

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Credit: 2 Elective credits

Semester, 2-, 3-, or 5-day per week course

Literary Connections prepares students to meet the reading and writing demands of their academic courses and modern lives by immersing them in explicit instruction in the construction of language, meaning and usage of words, and elements of strong writing. Additionally, students will hone their expressive and receptive language skills through regular fluency rehearsals and writing workshops. Over the course of the semester, students will develop a personal repertoire of concrete reading and writing strategies. Enrollment in Textual Analysis will be suggested for some students based on performance on diagnostic assessments. Students may also self-select to participate in a textual analysis course with the permission of the ELA & Reading Dept. Heads.

Math Connections

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Credit: 2 Elective credits

Semester, 2-, 3-, or 5-day per week course

Math Connections is designed to provide supplementary math instruction alongside students' grade-level math courses. Through targeted mini-lessons, re-teaching, pre-teaching, and structured work time, students will build compensatory math skills to prepare them for successful participation in their current and future math classes.