

# International High School at Union Square: Partnerships

## Academic Program

Subject	Courses	Course Descriptions
SOCIAL STUDIES	GRADES 9-10: GLOBAL STUDIES I & II	<p>Our 9th and 10th grade Global History classes are mixed and are two years long. Since our students come from such a variety of backgrounds and prior education experiences, the two-year sequence facilitates the development of strong interpersonal, collaborative, and language skills and supports them in developing a consistent foundation of content and skills before they advance to 11<sup>th</sup> grade. The curriculum is thematic and project-based.</p> <p>In 11th and 12th grade students build upon the foundational skills established in the earlier grades. They engage in critical reading and writing with leveled scaffolds. Students build academic and language skills through collaborative activities, discussions, and presentations. They complete a graduation portfolio project in which students answer a research question by writing an essay and presenting their findings.</p>
	GRADE 11: US HISTORY	
	GRADE 12: PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT & ECONOMICS	
ENGLISH	GRADES 9-10: GLOBAL LITERATURE I & II	<p>In 9th and 10th grade students read fictional/non-fictional stories, engage with digital media (animated short films, animated series), get to know authors and their writing techniques, and learn from the best with mentor texts that will shape their writing before they advance to the following grade.</p> <p>11th and 12th Grade American lit class scaffold curriculum to prepare students for both the NYS ELA Regents and the 12th Grade ELA Graduation PBAT. The curriculum is focused on argumentative writing and literary response. Teachers differentiate to meet students where they are and move them towards these state mandated graduation requirements.</p>
	GRADE 11: US LITERATURE I	
	GRADE 12: US LITERATURE II	
MATH	GRADES 9-10: INTEGRATED ALGEBRA	<p>In 9th and 10th grade, students engage in a two-year Algebra 1 curriculum that use a Project-Based approach to have students explore and develop the Algebraic skills need in order to prepare them for the NYS Algebra Regents.</p> <p>In 11th and 12th grade, students continue to develop their mathematics skills as they engage in Algebra 2 topics through interdisciplinary authentic tasks that utilizes Financial Literacy, Research Techniques, and Problem Solving to prepare students for their 12th Grade Graduation PBAT.</p> <p>An additional computer programming course provides students with real-world applications to which they must apply algebra, geometry, and trigonometry concepts.</p>
	GRADES 11-12: ALGEBRA 2 /TRIGONOMETRY	
	GRADE 12: COMPUTER PROGRAMMING	
SCIENCE	GRADES 9-10: LIVING ENVIRONMENT	<p>In 9th and 10th grade, science students follow a biology curriculum in which they are introduced to life science concepts in the Fall and then apply these concepts in developing and implementing their own science experiments in the Spring which culminates in a science fair.</p> <p>In grades 11 and 12, science students continue to practice developing science investigation skills through a researched-based curriculum for the physical sciences. Students create a research question from student-generated topics, design an experiment to test their research question, and finally generate a science research paper and presenting the paper as a graduation portfolio project.</p>
	GRADE 11: EARTH SCIENCE	
	GRADE 12: CHEMISTRY	
ARTS	GRADE 9-10: ART & DESIGN	<p>In 9th and 10th grade, students study the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design in depth. They complete a series of art activities, reading and writing assignments, classroom discussions, art analysis, and mini-projects exploring the Elements and Principles. Students learn to use various art mediums such as pencil, colored pencil, marker, acrylic paint, and watercolor, as well as Graphic Design software. Each semester concludes with a final portfolio project exploring themes of Identity and Social Justice.</p> <p>In grade 11, students review elements of art and learn how to use a variety of art media (such as drawing pencils, watercolor paint, acrylic paint, and various 3D materials) to create unique artworks with meaning. Students learn about a variety of visual artists - past and present - and how their work connects to history, current events, numerous cultures, and society. Students learn how to communicate about their own artwork and others through oral and written critiques and analysis.</p>
	GRADE 11: VISUAL ARTS	
PHYS ED & HEALTH	GRADE 9 OR 10: HEALTH EDUCATION	<p>Students must complete eight semesters of physical education and one semester of health education while at IHS-US.</p> <p>Our health education curriculum motivates students to maintain and improve their health, prevent disease, and avoid or reduce health-related risk behaviors. Our goal is to produce health literate students so that they can be healthy for a lifetime.</p>
	GRADES 9-12: PHYSICAL EDUCATION	
EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION	GRADE 11: INTERNSHIP	<p>Internship students complete unpaid internships for 100 hours over three months to gain career experience and develop their language and professional skills in a real-world setting.</p> <p>In senior mentoring, teacher mentors guide small groups of seniors through their graduation portfolio projects and presentations.</p>
	GRADE 11: JUNIOR SEMINAR	
SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL & COLLEGE	GRADE 12: SENIOR MENTORING	<p>College and Career Seminar (CCS) curriculum engages students in social-emotional learning, community service, professional skills, the college landscape, the college application process, financial aid, and career exploration.</p>
	GRADE 12: SENIOR SEMINAR	
COLLEGE COURSES	GRADES 10-12 (optional)	Students can take advanced level, college credit-bearing courses through CUNY College Now.
REGENTS	PRIOR TO GRADUATION	Students must pass Regents exams in Algebra and ELA
PERFORMANCE BASED ASSESSMENT TESTS (PBATS)	GRADE 9-10: MID-YEAR & JUNE	<p>Students choose a piece of work twice a year and present it to a group of their peers, teachers, and external evaluators. In their junior and senior years, students present commencement level projects in all four subjects to be certified for graduation. PBATs are rated using the NYSED state approved rubric.</p>
	GRADE 11-12: GRADUATION (English, Math, History, Science)	