



Young Women's College Prep



**Course
Description
Guide**

**2025
2026**

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE

YOUNG WOMEN'S COLLEGE PREP

2025-2026

NEW YORK STATE EXAM REQUIREMENTS			
SUBJECT AREA	REQUIRED CREDITS & SPECIFIC COURSES	NYS REGENTS DIPLOMA	NYS REGENTS DIPLOMA W/ ADVANCED DESIGNATION
ENGLISH	4 CREDITS English 9, 10, 11, 12	Common Core ELA	Common Core ELA
SOCIAL STUDIES	4 CREDITS 1. Global History I 2. Global History II 3. US History 4. Participation in Govt/Economics	Regents Exams in both • Global History • US History	Regents Exams in both • Global History • US History
MATH	4 CREDITS Algebra I Geometry Algebra II Intermediate Algebra Precalculus	One of these Regents exams • Algebra • Geometry • Algebra II	Each Regents Exam 1. Algebra 2. Geometry 3. Algebra II
SCIENCE	3 CREDITS • Living Environment • Two additional Science Courses	One of these Regents exams • Living Environment • Earth Science • Chemistry • Physics	Regents exams in • Living Environment • Earth Science w/lab
LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE)	1 CREDIT Spanish I	Level 1 Proficiency	Level 1 Proficiency AND Level 3 Comprehensive
ART OR MUSIC	1 CREDIT		
HEALTH	½ CREDIT		
PHYS ED	2 CREDITS (½ credit per year)		
Minimum passing course average is 65	22 Credits required to graduate	Regents & Common Core Exams Minimum passing score is 65	

YWCP High School Course Description Guide

YWCP Mission & Vision

YWCP offers young women from the city of Rochester the opportunity to learn in a single-gender environment, free from stereotypes, where a strong focus is placed on preparation for college enrollment and graduation. We support students in their endeavors to achieve excellence in and out of the classroom, helping them to develop the strong voices they will need to be leaders. YWCP believes in educating the whole girl, which encompasses academic achievement, career and college preparation, leadership, and personal and social development.

Art

Studio Art I- 1 CREDIT

Studio Art is about introducing positive methods of self expression and experimenting with new art concepts and materials. Students will also learn and apply the elements and principles of design to produce projects that naturally show their understanding of these concepts.

Studio Art II- ½ CREDIT

This course is a continuation of Studio Art. Students will research and experiment with new, unfamiliar areas in art while exploring a variety of materials, processes and media under the teacher's supervision. Students will continue building and expanding their art portfolios. *Prerequisite: Studio Art I*

2D/3D drawing- ½ CREDIT

Students will develop, explore, and experience various drawing and painting techniques using such media as pencil, pen and ink, pastels, oils, acrylics, tempera, and watercolor. Students will learn how to relate design with media and how to refine techniques for commercial appeal in this two- and three-dimensional design course. *Prerequisite: Studio Art I*

Ceramics- ½ CREDIT

The relationship between functional and nonfunctional artwork will be examined as the students design and construct from clay and other materials. Students will utilize the hand-building techniques of pinch, coil, and slab constructions, as well as more mechanical techniques such as throwing. Students will explore surface and texture procedures, glaze applications and the firing process, and will be introduced to the aesthetics of traditional and modern sculpture. *Prerequisite: Studio Art I*

Photography I- ½ CREDIT

Students will explore the effects of light upon photosensitive materials in both traditional and nontraditional applications to create a variety of conventional and alternative process images in photography. Students will study master photographers and photographic processes, as well as how the use of photography expands knowledge and awareness of a variety of cultures. *Prerequisite: Studio Art I*

Photography II- ½ CREDIT

Students will extend their work in photography in both breadth and depth. Computerized imagery will be included as students learn to use applications that are the standards for creative and professional photographers. Analysis, critical writing, and contextual study will be incorporated as ongoing activities. *Prerequisite: Photography I*

Business

Introduction to Entrepreneurship- ½ CREDIT

This course is designed to introduce students to the role that entrepreneurship and small business play in our economic system. An in-depth study of the various steps involved in starting a new business and the financial, legal and government aspects critical to a successful small business will be covered. Topics include marketing, competition, communication, human resources, type of ownership, location and setting up your business

Introduction to Sociology- ½ CREDIT

This half-year course provides a foundational overview of the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes, exploring key concepts like sensation, perception, learning, memory, motivation, emotion, personality, social psychology, development, and abnormal psychology, while also introducing research methods and major theoretical perspectives within the field, aiming to equip students with a basic understanding of how psychological factors influence thoughts, feelings, and actions across different contexts.

Introduction to Psychology- ½ CREDIT

This half-year course provides a foundational understanding of the sociological perspective, exploring key concepts like social structure, culture, socialization, social inequality, social institutions, and social change, while examining how these elements shape individual behavior and societal patterns, often utilizing research methods to analyze the social world around us; essentially, it teaches students to think critically about society and their place within it through a sociological lens.

English Language Arts

English I- 1 CREDIT

In the 9th grade ELA curriculum, students will read, discuss, and analyze contemporary, as well as classic texts, focusing on how complex characters develop through interactions with one another and how authors structure text, to accomplish that development. There will be a strong emphasis on reading closely and responding to text dependent questions, annotating text, and developing academic vocabulary in context. We will also focus on the ability to make evidence-based claims, which will empower students with critical reading and writing skills emphasized in the Common Core. Finally, we will be focusing on research skills and use of proper MLA citations to provide strong, thorough textual evidence to support student claims. Writing assignments are frequent and varied, relying on original thought and analysis. Students will be expected to engage in class discussions and participate in group activities throughout the year.

English II- 1 CREDIT

The course is designed to prepare students for college entrance and the English Regents Exam. Several literary classics will be read and studied, such as Fahrenheit 451, A Raisin in the Sun, and A Midsummer Night's Dream. Critical thinking and communication skills will be required for essay responses to literature. All foundational aspects of English Language Arts will be built upon and students will be expected to develop their writing, reading, and thinking skills to meet the needs of a 21st century learner. *Prerequisite: English I*

English III- 1 CREDIT

This course concentrates on fictional and non-fictional American Literature. Close reading and analysis of novels, plays, short stories, and poems will lead to instruction on writing literary analysis, as well as expository, creative, and argument papers. Argument writing will emphasize claim formulation, and the

development, defense, and support of argument using textual evidence across genres and rhetorical strategies. The American Dream and other major themes will be looked at through the writing of Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Miller, Whitman, Dickinson, Steinbeck, and Wilson. The range of conventional critical reading and writing skills necessary to show proficiency and mastery on the New York State Regents Assessment will be honed throughout the year. All juniors are expected to take the NYS English Regents Exam mid-year in January. *Prerequisite: English II*

Applied Literacy- ½ CREDIT

This course is designed to support students with skills used in encoding in writing and decoding texts. This course will also include work with morphology to enhance vocabulary across curriculum areas in order to improve comprehension. Students will be provided with opportunities to apply skills through meaningful reading and writing tasks.

English IV- 1 CREDIT

For twenty weeks of the course, Seniors enrolled in this course will intensely focus on the technical attributes of the writing process required at both the college and post high school career levels. Individuals will be given the invaluable opportunity to earn three college credits for a College Composition course through Bryant and Stratton college, through their English 12 Regents class and at no cost to the student. This course will assist in reversing the disturbing trend of incoming freshman and entry level employees who are either being assigned to remedial writing classes, at the college level, or denied employment. Students will master the ability to construct thesis driven papers, develop a college admissions' writing sample and thoroughly evaluate their own strengths and weaknesses, within the writing and research process, to ensure their individual success after graduation. Throughout the second semester, the course will focus on literature and literary criticism of works, which will also help prepare students for what they will experience after high school. Close reading, analysis and evaluation skills will be refined and honed, as these are an integral component of the Common Core Learning Standards. Students will demonstrate their ability to conduct in-depth, critical analysis of literature, appropriate for their post high school studies. Discussion, reflection, and evaluation, which will be text dependent, and the aforementioned, will be a major component of the second semester. All English 12 students will be required to complete a final exam/project at the end of the year. Students will leave English 12 with both the understanding and confidence necessary to succeed academically and socially, in the rigorous climate of today's society. *Prerequisite: English III*

ESOL

The central objective of ESOL instruction is that English Language Learners (ELLs) become proficient in English in all four language domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. While the ESOL standards and indicators within each of the four language domains generally reflect a progression from the easiest to the most difficult tasks for ELLs, this arrangement should be regarded as a framework for the levels of English mastery rather than the order in which tasks should be taught. The teacher's ordering of tasks will depend upon such factors as the amount of formal education that individual students have had in their native language, the English skills previously acquired, their age, and their grade level.

Financial Literacy

Career & Financial Management- 1 CREDIT

In Career and Financial Management, students will identify the relationship between career planning and lifelong goals. Students will perform a series of self-assessments to identify with career clusters that match their personal interests, values and abilities. Emphasis will also be placed on steps necessary to be successful, such as setting goals, developing good work habits, and communicating effectively. This process includes preparing a resume, cover letter, follow-up letter, identifying & practicing interview skills and acquisition of career related information. Students will develop a variety of soft skills that will help

them in their future careers. Students will study a wide range of financial areas that include savings, banking, credit cards, credit scores, financing, higher education, renting vs owning, taxes and insurance, consumer fraud, and investment. There will be an emphasis on planning for financial security by identifying with investing alternatives and planning for a successful financial future. Students will understand the necessity of establishing & maintaining an excellent credit rating while evaluating various sources of credit, credit laws & FICO scores, responsibilities and the cost of credit. Students will identify with risk management which includes identifying with the different types of insurance such as auto, home owners, renters, health & life insurance. Overall, Career and Financial Management will focus on how to take the skills they learn in this class and apply it to the real world.

Health & Physical Education

Health- 1 CREDIT* (Dual Enrollment with MCC 3 CREDITS)

The Health course is designed to assist students in obtaining accurate information, developing positive attitudes and acceptance of personal responsibility in making wise decisions concerning lifelong health. A variety of topics are explored with a focus on how lifestyle choices impact our quality of life. This course is a general overview of Health and Wellness. New York State requires the successful completion of this course for graduation. How will the choices you make today impact your life tomorrow?

Physical Education- ½ CREDIT

Students in 9th and 10th grade will receive a core program based on the philosophy that a physically educated student needs the elective experience of a wide variety of activities before their junior year. This means that ALL ninth and tenth graders will receive the exact same activities over a two year period as well as be able to select an experience level for participation (see below). The emphasis of this course will be on developing and improving skills and will be supported by assessments.

Physical Education is designed for students who want to participate in a variety of team games. These games are designed to provide highly skilled students an opportunity to advance their skills in such games and in addition to the required fitness center and pool units but not limited to, soccer, softball, lacrosse, broomball, volleyball, basketball, wall ball, team handball, ultimate games, rugby, flag football. (Activities may vary based on facilities)

It is also designed for students who want to participate in a variety of activities that are not competitive in nature and focus more on lifelong fitness. These activities are designed to provide the student with the experience of participating in a group setting for the enjoyment of physical activity. These activities are (but not limited to) badminton, table tennis, cardio kickboxing, dance, Kin Ball, pickleball, Kan Jam, and frisbee golf. These activities are small, sided games and lead up type games in addition to the required fitness center and pool units. (Activities may vary based on facilities)

Women in Sport- ½ CREDIT

Women In Sports will explore the evolution of women's participation in sports including sports careers. Students will examine historical barriers, landmark achievements, and contemporary issues facing female. Students will analyze the impact of Title IX, study prominent female athletes, and discuss current topics in women's sports. This is a half-year class and will be asynchronous/independent study. Students will be responsible for weekly assignments.

Languages other than English

Spanish I- 1 CREDIT

Spanish I is an introductory course in which students will gain a basic understanding of the Spanish language and culture. Throughout the course of the year, students will begin to speak, listen, read, and

write in Spanish at a novice low level. Emphasis is placed on the three modes of communication in world languages: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Students may be eligible to earn one credit towards the Regents Diploma by successfully completing the final exam or the course.

Spanish II- 1 CREDIT

Students begin to explore how the Spanish language functions as they transition from the beginning level to intermediate. Lessons are engaging, focused on making cultural comparisons, describing cultural perspectives, products and practices. Students make a huge jump this year in building their confidence in producing the language. They participate in interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational modes of learning. Daily conversations are held to improve interpersonal speaking skills. Written work is more extensive and gets polished with emphasis placed on creative thought. Students are encouraged to use their words more accurately and in the proper sequences. This course covers half of Checkpoint B of the NYS syllabus. A local exam is given in June. *Prerequisite: Spanish I*

Spanish III- 1 CREDIT

This course builds upon the language foundation learned in Spanish II. Throughout the course of the year, students will expand on their ability to communicate in Spanish; moving from an intermediate low to intermediate-mid level. Emphasis is placed on the three modes of communication in world languages: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. This course completes Checkpoint B of the NYS syllabus and prepares students for both a locally developed, state-credit exam and for upper-level study. Students may be eligible to earn a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation by successfully completing the final exam and the course. *Prerequisite: Spanish II*

Mathematics

Algebra I- 1 CREDIT

The course explores linear and exponential relationships through multiple representations and applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students will engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. Real-life applications, problem-solving, and mathematical reading and writing are emphasized. Students will use the graphing calculator throughout the course.

Geometry- 1 CREDIT

Geometry is the second course in mathematics for high school students. Within this course, students will have the opportunity to make conjectures about geometric situations and prove in a variety of ways, both formal and informal, that their conclusion follows logically from their hypothesis. Students will use the traditional tools of compass and straightedge. Geometry is meant to lead students to an understanding that reasoning and proof are fundamental aspects of mathematics and something that sets it apart from the other sciences. Students will take the NYS Regents Geometry exam in June. This exam is the second of three math exams required for an Advanced Regents diploma. *Prerequisite: Algebra I*

Algebra II- 1 CREDIT

In Algebra II, students use the knowledge and skills attained in middle school to deepen their understanding of algebra and extend their learning beyond linear relationships. Fundamental skills of mathematics will be applied to such topics as functions, equations and inequalities, probability and statistics, logarithmic and exponential relationships, quadratic and polynomial equations and matrices. Technology will be used to introduce and expand upon the areas of study listed above. Use of computers and graphing calculators will be incorporated into each chapter. *Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry*

Intermediate Algebra- 1 CREDIT

This course is designed to provide a sound foundation for seniors who are planning to enter a two or four-year college after graduation. Algebra II skills are reviewed and extended. Functions, and their

inverses are studied along with the properties, graphs and transformations of linear, quadratic absolute value, radical rational, logarithmic and exponential functions. Equations of the above functions as well as linear systems of equations and linear and absolute value inequalities are solved. Related application problems and projects are incorporated throughout. *Prerequisite: Algebra I*

Precalculus- 1 CREDIT (Dual Enrollment with MCC 3 CREDITS)

Pre-Calc is a course designed to help strengthen students' Algebra 2 skills to prepare them for the rigor of Calculus. We focus our attention on how students may see and interact with math in college and beyond.

Prerequisite: Algebra II

College Algebra & Statistics- 1 CREDIT (Dual Enrollment with MCC 3 CREDITS)

This is a full high school academic year course that is comparable to 1-2 semesters of introductory college statistics. This course covers such topics as exploratory statistical analysis, proper methods for data collection, probability of anticipating outcomes from given models, and applying statistical inference guides when researching data. There will be a final assessment given by the instructor in June. This is a college level course and should be considered by all students looking to attend a 2- or 4-year college degree program. *Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry*

Science

Living Environment- 1 CREDIT

In this course, students will survey a variety of living organisms to understand general principles of Biology. This includes, but is not limited to: the study of interacting structures and organ systems that carry out life processes; feedback mechanisms to maintain homeostasis; the flow of energy and matter within ecosystems and interactions within ecosystems; how genetic information is passed down and how genetics influences traits; how biological evolution arises from variation of traits and how evolution accounts for the unity and diversity of life; and how coevolution of life with Earth systems influences cycling of matter within and between Earth's systems.

Environmental Science- 1 CREDIT

This high school environmental science course delves into systems of the natural environment on planet Earth. Topics include ecology, the biosphere, land, forests and soil, water, energy and resources, and societies and policy. Some of the goals of the course include understanding how systems in the natural world are interconnected, examining the natural cycles and evaluating how human interaction affects these cycles, modeling real-world situations and recognizing possible consequences of specific actions, defending best choices to protect the environment with changing trends in the human population, and interpreting evidence and learning to report on environmental conditions and hazards.

Forensics- 1 CREDIT (Dual Enrollment with SUPA 3 CREDITS)

This year-long forensics course is intended to provide an introduction to understanding the science behind crime detection. Recent advances in scientific methods and principles have had an enormous impact upon law enforcement and the entire criminal justice system, and this course will present a number of those methods that are relevant to crime detection and analysis. The course will emphasize the techniques used in evaluating physical evidence, and laboratory exercises will include techniques commonly employed in forensic investigations. Topics included are blood analysis, organic and inorganic evidence analysis, microscopic investigations, hair analysis, DNA, drug chemistry and toxicology, fiber comparisons, paints, glass composition and fragmentation, fingerprints, soil comparisons, and arson investigations, among others.

Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology- 1 CREDIT

Anatomy and physiology is the scientific study of the body's structure (anatomy) and how those structures

function (physiology), essentially exploring the physical makeup of the human body and the processes that enable it to live and operate; it examines the relationships between different body parts, from cells to organ systems, to understand how the body works as a whole. *Prerequisite: Living Environment*

Social Studies

Global Studies I- 1 CREDIT

This year-long course begins with the Paleolithic Era and the development of the first civilizations, continues with an examination of classical societies, and traces the expansion of trade networks and their global impact. The course emphasizes the key themes of interactions over time, shifts in political power, and the role of belief systems. While the course emphasizes the importance of historical and geographical thinking, all of the social studies practices and standards are included in the study of global history and geography. This course ends in a local exam that is modeled after the 10th Grade Global History and Geography II New York State Regents exam.

Global Studies II- 1 CREDIT

This year-long course provides a snapshot of the world beginning around 1750. The course continues chronologically up to the present. Several concepts are woven throughout the course including industrialization, nationalism, imperialism, economic trends, conflict, technology, and the interconnectedness of the world. The last three key Ideas focus on world issues including globalization, human rights and environmental issues, applying a thematic approach. This course ends with a required New York State Regents exam. *Prerequisite: Global I*

World History Through Film- 1 CREDIT

This year-long elective course is designed to be paired directly with the 10th grade Global History class. Films set in the past can help students better understand how people lived, what they wore, and how they spoke during that time period. The course will further provide students with an increased awareness of how historical themes (Social, Political, Economic, Technological, Cultural, and Environmental) of history are woven throughout various events. Students will watch films and documentaries based on historical events from around the world and complete analysis of historical films using film guides, documents, and other selected sources. This course ends in an individualized viewing and analysis of an historical film.

United States History & Government- 1 CREDIT

This full year course begins with the colonial and constitutional foundations of the United States and explores the government structure and functions written in the Constitution. The development of the nation and the political, social, and economic factors that led to the challenges our nation faced in the Civil War are addressed. Industrialization, urbanization, and the accompanying problems are examined, along with America's emergence as a world power, the two world wars of the 20th century, and the Cold War. Students explore the expansion of the federal government, the threat of terrorism, and the place of the United States in an increasingly globalized and interconnected world. This course ends with a required New York State Regents exam. *Prerequisite: Global II*

Participation in Government- ½ CREDIT

This semester course aims to provide students with opportunities to become engaged in the political process by acquiring the knowledge and practicing the skills necessary for active citizenship. Content specifications are not included, so that the course can adapt to present local, national, and global circumstances, allowing teachers to select flexibly from current events to illuminate key ideas and conceptual understandings. Participation in government and in our communities is fundamental to the success of American democracy. This course ends in a culminating final project that is required in order to graduate.

Economics- ½ CREDIT

Economics examines the principles of the United States free market economy in a global context. Students will examine their individual responsibility for managing their personal finances. Students will analyze the role of supply and demand in determining the prices individuals and businesses face in the product and factor markets, and the global nature of these markets. Students will study changes to the workforce in the United States, and the role of entrepreneurs in our economy, as well as the effects of globalization. Students will explore the challenges facing the United States free market economy in a global environment and various policy-making opportunities available to the government to address these challenges. This course ends in a culminating final project that is required in order to graduate.