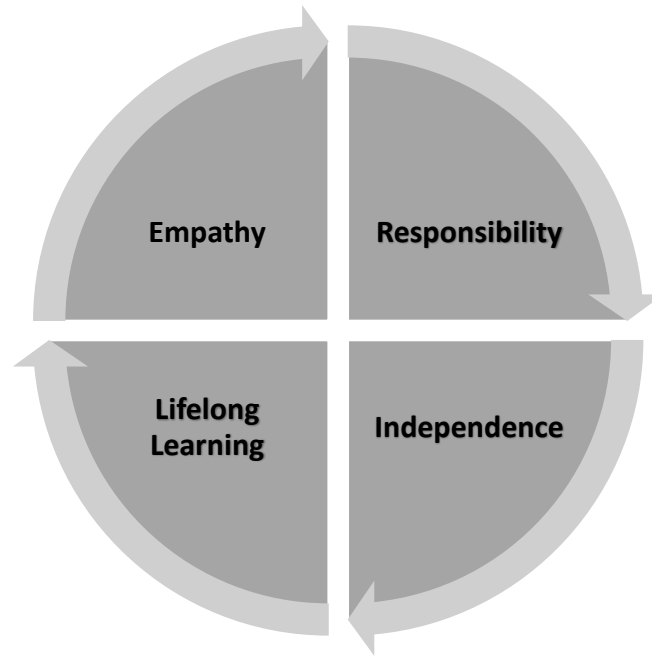


John Jay High School



9TH GRADE

FIRST STEPS GUIDE

Counselors meet with students, both individually and in groups, to work on academic, personal and social issues and to provide guidance to students as they prepare their academic programs and develop post-secondary school plans.

The counselors work to cultivate helpful and mutual partnerships with parents/guardians. This cooperation helps us provide care for students as they navigate the often-challenging years of adolescence. Our reward is to watch students graduate with a positive sense of self and with a direction in regard to college and/or career.

Freshman High School Timeline

On Going

- We encourage you to continue to build a relationship with your counselor through on-going contact throughout the year.
- Check your e-chalk e-mail account regularly for counselor communication.
- Join “Remind” to communicate with your counselor.
- Work hard, develop your work ethic, and do your personal best.

September

- Introduce yourself to your counselor.
- Attend group-counseling sessions and listen carefully when your counselor describes all Counseling Center services.
- Follow-up with individual appointments.
- Attend the extra-curricular Club Fair and activities.

October - December

- Consult with your counselor if difficulties arises with your classes.
- Continue to pursue extracurricular activities.
- Students with a documented disability, a 504 accommodation plan, or students who are declassified, should contact the Counseling Center to obtain a student eligibility form in order to apply for possible accommodations with the College Board for PSAT/SAT, SAT Subject Tests and Advanced Placement exams.

January – February

- Plan sophomore year classes. Check to make sure you are taking a program that challenges you and provides you with an enriching learning experience.

March - May

- See your counselor for final review of your schedule for sophomore year. (Check to be sure you are taking all courses required for graduation.)
- Think about summer opportunities.
- Register for the June SAT Subject Test in Biology (if applicable).

June

- Regents exams (Common Core Algebra or Common Core Geometry and Earth Science).
- Biology SAT Subject Test offered.
- Finalize summer plans.

Graduation Requirements

The Board of Education awards a diploma based upon the successful completion of an approved course of study. Credits required include:

English	4.0
Social Studies	4.0
Mathematics	3.0
Science	3.0
Physical Education	2.0
World Language	1.0
Fine or Performing Arts	1.0
Health	0.5
Electives	3.5
Total Credits	22.0

- A student must earn a minimum of 22 high school credits in order to receive a diploma.
- Physical education is required at each grade level and counts as 0.50 credit each year of high school.
- Each student is expected to carry a minimum of five courses each semester plus physical education.
- A student, who pursues an accelerated course of study, which enables him or her to complete high school level work prior to entering ninth grade, will be granted high school credit.

Regents Examinations

The New York State Education Department requires that students successfully pass the following Regents examinations in order to graduate from high school with a Regents diploma:

Common Core English	(11 th grade)
Common Core Algebra	(8 th or 9 th grade)
Common Core Geometry	(9 th or 10 th grade)
Global History and Geography	(10 th grade)
Science (Earth Science)	(8 th or 9 th grade)
United States History	(11 th grade)

- Students in the graduating class of 2012 and beyond must score a minimum of 65 on all of the five required Regents exams.

Graduation Requirements continued...

- **Multiple Pathways to Graduation:** In January of 2015, the Board of Regents approved regulations establishing multiple, comparably rigorous assessment pathways to graduation for all students. Under the new “4+1” pathway assessment option, students must take and pass four required Regents exams or department approved alternative assessments (one in each of the following subjects: English, math, science, and social studies) and a comparably rigorous assessment for the fifth required exam to graduate. The fifth assessment required for graduation may include one additional Regents examination in a different course in mathematics, science, social studies or a CDOS (Career Development Occupational Studies) Pathway.
- Some students with an **Individualized Education Plan (IEP)** are eligible to satisfy graduation requirements **for a local diploma** by earning a grade of 55 or higher on the five required Regents exams; OR
 - The student scores 45-54 on one or more of the five required regents exams other than English or math, but scores 65 or higher on one or more of the other required exams, thus compensating for the lower scores; **provided that**
 - Each exam for which the student earned a score of 45-54 must be compensated by a score of 65 or higher on a separate exam, **and**
 - The student has earned a passing grade that meets or exceeds the school standard for passing the course in the subject of the exam for which the score of 45-54 was received, **and**
 - The student has a satisfactory attendance rate for the school year in which the student took the exam and scored 45-54

Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS)

Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter, students will be able to earn a New York State (NYS) Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential. This credential will recognize each individualized student’s preparation and skill for post-school employment. Information about this option may be obtained in consultation with your child’s school counselor.

Additional Social Studies Requirements

All students must complete a ½ credit in Economics and a ½ credit in Participation in Government during senior year.

Individual High School Scheduling Plan

Subject	Required	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
English	4 credits	English 9	English 10		
Social Studies	4 credits	Global History 9			
Math	3 credits				
Science	3 credits				
World Language	1 credit				
Fine Arts	1 credit				
Elective #1			Health ½ credit		
Elective #2					
Elective #3					
Physical Education	2 credits	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education

Regents examinations:

- Common Core English (11th grade)
- Mathematics (Common Core Algebra and Common Core Geometry) (9th or 10th grade)
- Global History and Geography (10th grade)
- Science (Earth Science) (9th or 10th grade)
- United States History (11th grade)

College Admission Tests **(SAT/SAT Subject Tests/PSAT/NMSQT & ACT)**

Students who will be applying to college should plan to take the SAT and/or ACT in the spring of junior year and the fall of senior year. Some colleges may require students to take two or three SAT Subject Tests. The SAT, SAT Subject Tests and ACT are offered at John Jay. The Pre-ACT is a practice ACT. John Jay offers the Pre-ACT in March of sophomore year. The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a practice SAT, which is also used as the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship Program for juniors only. Most juniors take the PSAT in October of their junior year.

If you have any questions about testing, please consult your school counselor. Information regarding the exams, including dates, registration guidelines and scoring, can be found at www.collegeboard.com and www.act.org.

Many colleges do not require college admissions tests. For a complete list, please visit www.fairtest.org

Guidelines For Testing 9 –12:

SAT Subject Test

<u>Course Name</u>	<u>SAT Subject Test</u>
Honors Algebra / 2 Trig	Math Level 1
Honors Biology <u>or</u> AP	Biology / EM
Honors Chemistry <u>or</u> AP	Chemistry
AP English Language <u>or</u> AP English Literature	Literature
European History AP	World History
Physics AP	Physics
Honors Pre-Calculus AB <u>or</u> BC	Math Level 2
US History AP	United States History
World Language 4 Honors	World Language

SAT Subject Tests

A SAT Subject Test is a standardized exam in a particular subject area such as Biology, US History or Spanish (more information at www.collegeboard.com). In years past, these exams were called SAT II's and Achievement Tests.

A small select handful of colleges and universities require applicants to submit scores from SAT Subject Tests. Colleges that require SAT Subject Tests generally ask students to submit scores from two exams. **Many of these colleges will accept an ACT with writing score** (more information at www.act.org) in lieu of both the SAT and the SAT Subject Tests. Students can take these exams anytime through early fall of senior year. They are offered on the same days that the SAT is administered.

The most common Subject Tests that JJHS students take are Biology, English Literature, Math Level 1, Math Level 2 and US History. Students who take these exams are motivated and generally achieve at high levels in the corresponding JJHS classes. Additional study and preparation outside of the class is always recommended for students who will be sitting for a Subject Test.

The College Board allows for Score Choice. Score Choice gives you the option to choose which scores (*by test date for the SAT and by individual test for SAT Subject Tests*) you send to colleges – in accordance with an institution's stated score-use practice (CollegeBoard web site). It is important to note that some colleges and universities require that you report all of your College Board and ACT Test Scores when you apply.

The decision to take an SAT Subject Test can be a difficult one. Therefore, we recommend that a student consult with both their teacher and counselor prior to registering for an exam. For information on schools that require/recommend SAT Subject tests, please visit <https://blog.prepscholar.com/complete-list-of-colleges-that-require-sat-subject-tests>

If you have additional questions or concerns regarding the SAT Subject Tests, please contact your child's counselor.

Helpful Hints and Guidelines for Parenting a High School Student

- Be aware and mindful of an appropriate balance for your child (academic, social and extra-curricular)
- Resist trying to “fix” everything. Your child needs to learn to successfully get through many difficult situations
- Have clear expectations of what you want your child to do or not to do and communicate them clearly and consistently – DO NOT hesitate to set limits regarding cell phone use, screen time and social media
- Help your child find interests and activities that enrich their life (Importance of community/volunteer service – Don’t be afraid to try something new and have them step out of their comfort zone - Discuss why volunteerism is important to the greater good)
- Assist your child in creating a schedule in which to do their school work
- Encourage and expect your child to take responsibility for their actions, resist blaming others
- Allow your child to experience disappointments, this will help build resiliency
- Try to instill a sense of satisfaction and confidence in your child – standing up for what is right even if they must stand alone
- Discuss the importance of developing empathy

**PLEASE VISIT THE COUNSELING CENTER’S WEBSITE FOR RESOURCES
ON TESTING TIME LINES, STUDY SKILLS, EMPATHY VIDEO AND MUCH MORE!**

<http://ijhs.klschools.org/groups/4743/counseling/Home>

AFTER SCHOOL “EXTRA HELP”

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| • Tuesdays | Art
Social Studies
World Language |
| • Wednesdays | Business/Tech Ed.
English
Music
Science |
| • Thursdays | Math
Health, Physical Education |