



## **The IDEAL School of Manhattan**

314 West 91st Street

New York, NY 10024

212-769-1699

[www.theidealschool.org](http://www.theidealschool.org)

Head of School: Janet Wolfe, [jwolfe@theidealschool.org](mailto:jwolfe@theidealschool.org)

Upper School Head: Sam Keany, [skeany@theidealschool.org](mailto:skeany@theidealschool.org)

Assistant Upper School Head: Emily Kuntz, [ekuntz@theidealschool.org](mailto:ekuntz@theidealschool.org)

Lower School Head: Elizabeth Hazelwood, [ehazelwood@theidealschool.org](mailto:ehazelwood@theidealschool.org)

College and Postsecondary Counselor: Morgan Murphy, [mmurphy@theidealschool.org](mailto:mmurphy@theidealschool.org)

CEEB Code: 330052

## **Mission Statement**

*The IDEAL School of Manhattan is an inclusion school dedicated to creating a diverse community that affirms and accepts the full identities of all people, while inspiring academic excellence, creative leadership, and a desire to build a more just and equitable world.*

## **Accreditations, Memberships, and Associations**

- High School Certificate of Registration from the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York
- K-12 accreditation from the New York State Association of Independent Schools

IDEAL holds an Absolute Charter, Grades K-12, from New York State and is accredited, Grades K-12, by the New York State Association of Independent Schools (NYSAIS). The Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York also granted IDEAL its certificate of High School Registration in June 2018. The school is also a member of the National Association of Independent Schools, the Independent Schools Admissions Association of Greater New York, the Guild of Independent Schools of New York City, and The Heads Network. IDEAL registered with the College Board in September 2017 as a Level II School to receive students' scores for AP, PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, and ACT and to administer AP, PSAT/NMSQT. Additionally, the Level II code allows us to participate in AP Course Audit, to request College Board accommodations for students with disabilities, and to receive SAT and ACT publications. Our membership in One Schoolhouse's online independent school program increases student access to electives and AP classes ([www.oneschoolhouse.org](http://www.oneschoolhouse.org)).

## **Community**

IDEAL is housed in two buildings in Manhattan's Upper West Side. The Lower School (Grades K-5) consists of 93 students housed in our building at 314 W. 91st Street. The Upper School, consisting of a Middle School (Grades 6-8), a High School (Grades 9-12) and an 18-21 Program, includes 111 students and occupies three floors of the B'nai Jeshurun Synagogue on 89th Street. Business and



administrative offices are split between the two campuses. The student body is culturally, economically, and academically diverse, reflecting the founders' vision of a school that is as dynamic and diverse as New York City itself. Learning within a diverse community cultivates a positive sense of self, empathy, and collaborative leadership skills within IDEAL students. IDEAL's High School provides a rigorous academic program, a variety of leadership opportunities, and an emphasis on social justice and the arts that together inspire students to strive for personal and academic excellence.

### **School**

IDEAL is an independent K-12 inclusion school. The school currently enrolls 207 students and employs 96 faculty and staff members. Currently, there are 93 students in the Lower School (Grades K-5), 63 students in the Middle School (Grades 6-8), and 47 students in the High School (Grades 9-12). IDEAL offers an 18-21 Program for students who have completed 12 years of school but have not yet earned a diploma. There is currently one student in that program. The average class size is 17 in the Lower School, 14 in the Middle School, and 10 in the High School. The student to faculty ratio is 3:1 in the Lower School and 4:1 in the Upper School. The school was opened in 2006 and graduated its first senior class in 2018.

### **Academic Program and Support for Diverse Learners**

IDEAL offers one inclusive academic program with three levels of support based on students' academic needs.

- The Standard Program encompasses all elements of our differentiated curriculum and extracurricular program. All IDEAL students participate in advisory, receive additional help from their teachers and can access our school counselor as needed.
- The Zenith Program encompasses all elements of our differentiated curriculum and extracurricular program, as well as up to 180 minutes of related services, which include counseling, speech and language therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy. No student is pulled from core academic classes to receive therapy.
- The Dylan Program encompasses all elements of our differentiated curriculum and extracurricular program, as well as up to 270 minutes of related services, which include counseling, speech and language therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy. No student is pulled from core academic classes to receive therapy. Students in our Dylan Program also have an associate teacher, a one-to-one specialist charged with ensuring that their assigned student is fully included in our program and community.

### **Curriculum**

IDEAL's unique High School model is based on a rotating curriculum. Grades 9-12 are blended and structured based on intentional groupings designed to challenge and support each student. In our blended model, all students in High School study the same essential subject in English, history, and science at the same time; for example, all High School students are studying biology and world history in the 2019-20 school year, and they are all reading literature related to the themes of



conflict and resolution. Each course is offered at a variety of levels based on student readiness and learning profile, ranging from foundational to honors. Honors courses are offered in history, physics, and pre-calculus. Students may take the AP English Literature and Composition and AP Language and Composition Exams in alternate years. In 2019-20, students will be sitting for the AP English Language and Composition exam. IDEAL is also offering Advanced Spanish: Literature and Culture at the AP level for the first time in 2019-20. IDEAL's curriculum also emphasizes the arts, with all students required to take four years of arts electives. Throughout the year, students from across sections come together to work on projects, participate in group discussions, take trips, and share presentations. Additionally, students come together for Community Time, advisory, clubs, assemblies, and service projects.

Graduation requirements are as follows: Four credits each of English, history, and math, plus three credits of science, physical education, and Spanish. Graduates are also required to have completed four credits of arts classes, which include music, theatre, and visual arts choices. The High School further expands its course offerings to include a variety of AP and elective offerings in partnership with One Schoolhouse.

## IDEAL Four-Year Course Map

### Graduation Requirements

English 4 Credits	History 4 Credits	Math 4 Credits	Science 3 Credits	Spanish 3 Credits
Arts 4 Credits	Physical Education 3 Credits	Health 1 Credit	<b>Graduation</b> <b>Required Credits: 26</b> <b>Credits Per Year: 7, including Physical Education/Health</b>	

### English

**Year 1:** Identity and Power

**Year 2:** Coming of Age and Journeys

**Year 3:** Conflict and Resolution

**Year 4:** Leadership and World Leaders

AP English Literature and Composition and AP English Language and Composition are offered in alternate years.

### History

**Year 1:** American History

**Year 2:** Semester 1--Government, Semester 2--Economics

**Year 3:** World History

**Year 4:** World History: Global Civil Rights Movements

## Math

All students are placed in the appropriate course in the math sequence below, as determined by the math department and Upper School Head.

- Real-World Math Program, Levels 1-4
- Introduction to Algebra, Algebra 1, or Algebra 1 Honors
- Geometry or Geometry Honors
- Algebra 2/Trigonometry or Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors
- Precalculus or Precalculus Honors
- Calculus or AP Calculus AB or BC

## Science

**Year 1:** Chemistry

**Year 2:** Physics

**Year 3:** Biology

**Year 4:** Electives and online options, including AP, will be available and suited to student and teacher interest and expertise

## Spanish

All students take the appropriate course in the Spanish sequence below, as determined by the Spanish department and Upper School Heads. Language exemptions may be granted at the discretion of the Upper School Head and Assistant Head.

Spanish Exposure	Spanish 3
Spanish 1	Spanish 4
Spanish 2	Spanish 5/AP Spanish

## Arts Electives

- IDEAL offers a variety of arts electives each year, based on student and teacher interest
- Students select a new elective--Drama, Music, or Visual Art--each semester in High School
- STEAM units such as coding and video-editing are integrated through the curriculum and engage students in self-expression, communication, and problem-solving

## Physical Education and Health

- Physical education classes meet three days per week for all students in Grades 9-12
- Health classes meet one day per week during the PE block for all students in Grades 9-12

## One Schoolhouse

- IDEAL students who meet the prerequisites for a One Schoolhouse class and demonstrate interest and independence in this area of curriculum may apply to take one One Schoolhouse class per year at no additional charge
- Prerequisites are listed in the One Schoolhouse online curriculum guide
- Applications to take a One Schoolhouse class are attached at the end of this guide

## 18-21 Program

- Students continue to develop core skills in math, reading, and writing
- Community outings/volunteering
- Public transportation
- Life skills (cooking, cleaning, daily routines)
- Organizational skills (planning, time management, etc)
- Extended internship opportunities

### Grade Point Average

IDEAL does not weight grade point averages. GPAs are calculated on the following scale.

Letter Grade	Percent Grade	4.0 Scale
A+	97-100	4.0
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	65-66	1.0
F	Below 65	0.0

### Rank

IDEAL does not rank students.

### Graduating Classes and the Class of 2020

IDEAL graduated its first seniors in 2018. There were three seniors in the class of 2018 and 2019. There are eight seniors in the class of 2020. Colleges and postsecondary programs to which IDEAL students have been accepted include:

Borough of Manhattan  
Community College  
Bronx Community College  
Brooklyn College  
City College  
Concordia College  
Cooke School  
Florida Atlantic University

Goucher College  
Hamilton College  
Hostos Community College  
Hunter College  
Iona College  
John Jay College  
Le Moyne College  
Lehman College

LIU Brooklyn  
Loyola New Orleans  
Manhattanville College  
Marist College  
Medgar Evers College  
Mercy College  
Mitchell College  
Nova Southeastern University



Pace University  
Queens College  
Riverview School  
Roosevelt University  
St. John's University  
Suffolk County Community  
College

Suffolk University  
SUNY Binghamton  
SUNY Buffalo  
SUNY Cobleskill  
SUNY Delhi  
SUNY Geneseo  
SUNY New Paltz

SUNY Purchase  
University of Rhode Island  
Westchester Community College  
York College

### **College Preparation and Standardized Test Results**

IDEAL offers the SAT and PSAT/NMSQT in the fall and offers the SAT and PSAT 10 in spring. Supporting the socioeconomic diversity of the school, IDEAL includes a series of test prep classes in its program for interested juniors. Additionally, IDEAL offers a college exploration and research class for juniors and seniors that provides students with a forum for identifying schools that interest them, crafting a college essay, and empowering students in their college journey. IDEAL's College and Postsecondary Counselor offers support for students and their families through conferencing, a personal statement writing workshop, routine communication about college placement events at school and throughout New York City, and through the development of an individualized timeline with students. Additionally, IDEAL's College and Postsecondary Counselor leads two local college trips for High School students each year to inform their application process and to introduce students to a variety of colleges in the region.

### **Extracurricular Opportunities**

IDEAL does not offer a competitive High School sports program. Students have a variety of opportunities, however, to participate in sports such as volleyball, cross country, basketball, golf, and track and field at the club level.

IDEAL's vibrant arts curriculum is integrated throughout all disciplines and permeates school culture. Creative arts courses in the Upper School include visual and digital arts, vocal music (both small groups and larger ensembles), contemporary music production, music theory and composition, drama, and specialized workshops. IDEAL students can also participate in two annual productions, a fall play and a spring musical. High school students have the opportunity to take part in IDEAL's drama troupe competing in the International Thespian Society festival.

Clubs meet during the school day on a rotating schedule. Clubs are proposed by students and faculty at the start of the school year and meet in small groups with a faculty mentor to engage in a shared area of interest. Current clubs include Fashion, Coding, Comedy and Spoken Word, Dungeons and Dragons, Glee, Yearbook, Sports, Cooking, Comics, Prom and Dance, and Star Wars.

### **Signature Programs: Advisory**

A robust Advisory Program helps drive the celebration and development of the whole child, which is central to the IDEAL Mission. Every Middle and High School student is a member of an advisory



group, and each advisory group is led by two faculty members who support the academic, social, and emotional growth of the individuals and the group as a whole. Advisory groups gather briefly in scheduled times at the beginning and end of each day to touch base and to strengthen the sense of community and to prepare for the day or homework ahead. Advisory groups also meet once a week in a longer block for guided discussions on topics related to friendship, advocacy, growth mindset, and service projects.

**Signature Programs: Social Justice**

IDEAL's signature Social Justice Program supports each student's positive identity and character development by directly addressing the impact of stereotyping, bias, and discriminatory behavior, encouraging cooperative learning, and teaching conflict resolution. Our anti-bias and multicultural values are woven into the fabric of our curriculum and community. Annual celebrations, curricular programs, and focused trips highlighting social justice include the Peace and Light Ceremony, all-school Civil Rights Museum, and the Upper School overnight Civil Rights Journey. IDEAL students and faculty members have also attended the People of Color Conference and Student Diversity Leadership Conference, as well as other local conferences focused on diversity and leadership, on an annual basis.