

Avenues New York School Profile 2025–26

About Avenues

First opened in 2012, **Avenues New York** is a 16-grade independent school located in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan. With an enrollment of 1,890 across all divisions, we are the largest independent school in New York City. Admissions is highly selective and we meet 100% of demonstrated financial need for each admitted family at the time of admission. 28% of Upper Division students receive financial aid.

Core Academic Program

The upper grades program begins by establishing a shared foundation of integrated, interdisciplinary studies. Whenever possible, we weave together intersections among subjects such as English, art and design, World Course, and science. This builds a base of essential content knowledge, develops key skills, and nurtures a mindset that favors an integrated view of the world that leans into complexity. Rounding out the core is intensive study in mathematics, world languages, Wellness and Movement—along with High-Intensity Practice in coding, writing, and math (HIP) and self-directed learning via Mastery practices—which foster habits that position students for both rigor and wellness.

Upper Division Fast Facts

909

Students grades 6-12

23%

Historically underrepresented students of color

154

Students in the Class of 2026

26

Countries represented

59%

Students of color

37

Languages spoken at home

Curriculum Notes

GLOBAL HUMANITIES:

ENGLISH AND WORLD COURSE

Students complete a three-year sequence of integrated humanities courses: **Global Humanities Foundations**, **Global Humanities Modernization**, and **American Studies**. Each of these courses earns students one credit in World Course and one credit in English each year. In senior year, students fulfill their English requirement through the **World Literature** course and their World Course requirement with **Senior Seminar**, a year-long interdisciplinary capstone experience based on a college-style seminar, examining the intersection of history and global cultures.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Building on our language immersion program, most students complete four years of study in a modern language such as **Mandarin Chinese** or **Spanish**. Many students graduating are near fluent and capable of advanced collegiate studies in their target language. At the end of each year, they are assessed in accordance with the proficiency guidelines established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. **Please note: Students with a language-based learning difference are given the option to take their language courses for Pass/Fail credit, or to receive a language waiver.**

SCIENCES

For the first two years of high school, students enroll in **Integrated Science 1 and 2**, a sequence that exposes them to fundamental concepts in physics, chemistry, and biology, followed by **Biochemistry** in 11th grade. With faculty recommendation, students may enroll in advanced-level coursework. Electives and Advanced electives focused on physics, chemistry, and biology are available beginning in 10th grade.

MATHEMATICS

In **Integrated Math 2, 3, and 4** (grades 9-11) students gain fluency in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, advanced algebra, and focus on pre-calculus in IM4. The Integrated Math “STEM” pathway uses a problem-based curriculum adapted from Phillips Exeter Academy, with classes driven by student-led discussion rather than direct instruction. At the completion of Integrated Math 4, students may elect to take **Introduction to Calculus** (curriculum aligned to a regular-level Calculus course), **Calculus** (compare to AB), **Advanced Calculus** (compare to BC), or **Advanced Multivariable Calculus**, depending on teacher recommendation. Alternatively, students may elect to take **Discrete Math**, **Statistics**, **Data Science**, and other math electives are also available to students in grades 11-12.

Contact Information

Avenues New York

259 10th Avenue
New York, NY 10001
CEEB Code: 333776

Todd Shy

Head of School
todd.shy@avenues-ny.org

Matt Scott

Head of Upper Division
matt.scott@avenues-ny.org

Allison Snell

Director of Student Wellbeing
ali.snell@avenues-ny.org

Davin Sweeney

Director of College Counseling
davin.sweeney@avenues-ny.org

Kate Hardy

Dean and College Counselor,
Grades 11-12
kate.hardy@avenues-ny.org

Tori Guen

Dean and College Counselor,
Grades 11-12
tori.guen@avenues-ny.org

Domenic Lamberti

Dean and College Counselor,
Grades 11-12
domenic.lamberti@avenues-ny.org

Dr. Nicole Piedra

Dean and College Counselor,
Grades 11-12
nicole.piedra@avenues-ny.org

Alexander Polk

Dean and College Counselor,
Grades 11-12
alexander.polk@avenues-ny.org

Jeannie Wei

College Counseling Coordinator,
Upper Division
jeannie.wei@avenues-ny.org

Accreditation and Honors



Avenues is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and is recognized as an Apple Distinguished School.



avenuesnewyork.org
avenues-the-world-school.org



avenues.org
avenues.org



+1 646.664.0800
admissions@avenues-ny.org
www.avenues.org/ny

Avenues New York
259 10th Avenue
New York, NY 10001
CEEB Code: 333776



Course Summary

Nearly all courses at Avenues are taught at an honors level. Avenues does not offer Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate Courses. Advanced classes in grades 11-12 approach first-year university classes in terms of rigor and expectations for independent student work, require faculty approval, and represent our highest level of academic rigor.

SUBJECT	REQUIRED SEQUENCE	ELECTIVE COURSES <i>Available to '26</i>		ADVANCED COURSES <i>Available to '26</i>	
World Course & Social Sciences	9 Global History Foundations 10 Global Humanities Modernization 11 American Studies: World Course 12 Senior Seminar	11-12 Anthropology: The Rise of Humanity 11-12 Eastern Philosophy (24-25 school year) 11-12 International Relations and Globalization 11-12 Philosophy of Economics 11-12 Psychology		10 Advanced History 11-12 Advanced History: Latin America (24-25 school year) 11-12 Advanced History: Post-Cold War Latin America 11-12 Advanced Political Science 11-12 Advanced Microeconomics 11-12 Advanced Macroeconomics 11-12 Advanced Topics in Philosophy: What is Wisdom	
Humanities	9 Global Humanities Foundations: English 10 Global Humanities Modernization: English 11 American Studies: English 12 World Literature: English	11-12 Secrets and Lies: Literature of Deceit, Deception, and Duplicity (24-25 school year) 11-12 Consciousness, Ethics and the Search for Meaning 11-12 Creative Writing		10 Advanced Humanities 11-12 Advanced Journalism 11-12 Advanced Shakespeare's Masterpieces (24-25 school year) 11-12 Advanced Philosophy: What is Wisdom? 11-12 Advanced Gothic Literature 11-12 Advanced Literature: Adaptation!	
Math	9 Integrated Math 2, or Integrated Math 2 STEM 10 Integrated Math 3, or Integrated Math 3 STEM 11-12 Integrated Math 4, or Integrated Math 4 STEM, or Integrated Math with Data and Probability	12 Introduction to Calculus 12 Calculus 11-12 Data Science for Social Impact (formerly Solving Big Problems with Big Data) 11-12 Statistics		12 Advanced Calculus 12 Advanced Multivariable Calculus 12 Calculus 11-12 Institute for Advanced Mathematics (See program description)	
Science	9 Integrated Science 1 10 Integrated Science 2 11 Biochemistry	10-12 Computer Science 1: Programming Foundations 11-12 Cosmology and Astronomy 10-12 Robotics: FIRST Tech Challenge 11-12 Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy & Physiology		12 Advanced Biology 11-12 Advanced Chemistry 12 Advanced Organic Chemistry 10-12 Advanced Physics 11-12 Advanced Physics with Calculus: Mechanics, Electricity, and Magnetism 11-12 Advanced Computer Science 11-12 Advanced Biodesign & Bioengineering	
Modern Languages	9-12 <i>Students must complete four years of one modern language from the below and/or Advanced sequence</i> Students must complete four years of intensive study of a modern language and/or Advanced sequence: - Spanish 1: Discovery - Spanish 2: Breakthrough - Spanish 3: Exploration - Spanish 4: Empowerment - Chinese 1: Discovery - Chinese 2: Breakthrough - Chinese 3: Exploration - Chinese 4: Empowerment	9,10 Advanced Spanish: Advanced Spanish: New World; Latin America 9,10 Advanced Spanish: Old World; Spain 11,12 Advanced Spanish: Literature and the Arts 11,12 Advanced Spanish: Media and Culture 11,12 Advanced Specialized Topics in Spanish 11,12 Advanced Individualized Pathways in Spanish		9,10 Advanced Chinese: Advanced Chinese: History and Society (9, 10) 9,10 Advanced Chinese: Homelands and People 11,12 Advanced Chinese: Literature and the Arts 11,12 Advanced Chinese: Media and Culture	
Arts & Design	One of the following: 9 Introduction to the Creative Process: Visual Art 9 Creative Process: Instrumental Music 9,10 Instrumental Music Workshop 9,10 Music Theory and Practice 9,10 Vocal Workshop 10 Design & Engineering Workshop 10 Drawing & Painting Workshop 10 Photography Workshop 10 Mixed Media Workshop 10 Digital Art Elective	11-12 Ceramics Studio 11-12 Design & Engineering Studio 11-12 Film Arts 1 & 2 11-12 Music Theory and Practice		9-12 Advanced Music 11-12 Advanced Studio in Art, 1 & 2 12 Advanced Design & Engineering Studio	



Grading and Rank

Avenues does not provide a calculated GPA or rank for students. Advanced courses are not weighted on the transcript.

Academic Calendar

Avenues divides its academic year into two semesters along with one J-Term, described below.

SEPT.	S1 SEMESTER 1
OCT.	
NOV.	
DEC.	
JAN.	S2 SEMESTER 2
FEB.	
MAR.	
APR.	
MAY	J-TERM*
JUN.	
JUL.	BREAK
AUG.	

All classes, with the exception of J-term, are yearlong.

*Runs in late-May to mid-June except for grade 12 who graduate in late May.

J-Term was piloted at Avenues in the 2022-23 school year, the class of 2026's freshman year. During that year, the course was non-credit bearing, so it does not appear on transcripts. For the 22-23 and 23-24 school years, J-term was offered in both January and June. On-campus J-term classes are displayed on the transcript for Pass/Fail credit. Global Journeys traveled during J-term are not for credit but are displayed on the transcript as global experiences.

J-Term

J-Term is a yearly opportunity, offered in June on a pass/fail basis, for students to participate in a range of immersive learning experiences. Students in the upper grades can study abroad through Global Journeys in countries such as Bhutan, Germany, and Costa Rica, or take two half-day classes in topics like game theory, banned books, quantum science, and the history of monuments in New York City.

Graduation Requirements

- **English:** 4 credits
- **World Course:** 3 credits
- **Senior Seminar:** 1 credit
- **Math:** 3 credits
- **Science:** 3 credits, which must include:
 - Integrated Science 1
 - Integrated Science 2
 - Biochemistry
- **World Language:** 4 credits
- **Art and Design:** 2 credits, among:
 - Performing Arts
 - Visual Arts
 - Design
- **HIP Thinking:** 1 credit*
- **Mastery:** 0.5 credit**
- **Wellness + Movement (WAM):** 4 credits in grades 9-12***
- **Grade 10 Electives:** 1 credit*
- **Grade 11-12 Electives:** 3 credits

* Class of 2027 and beyond. Class of 2026 and earlier requires 2 HIP Thinking credits, and Grade 10 Elective is not required.

** Class of 2025 and beyond

*** Class of 2026 and beyond.

Co-Curricular Activities

ATHLETICS

Avenues fields 35 sports teams, including 17 at the varsity level. During the 2024-2025 season, 76% of our seniors played on at least one team, and our team and individual athletes have competed in recent state, league, and division varsity championships and went on to pursue athletics at Division I and III programs.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Avenues offers nearly 70 clubs and organizations for grades 9-12, ranging from publications to affinity groups to community and social impact organizations. Clubs operate on a calendar year with leadership transitions in January. They meet before and after school, and are guided by a faculty advisor.

Signature Programs

MASTERY

Avenues' renowned **Mastery Program** fosters innovation and imagination by providing students with time and space during the school day to focus on the achievement of exceptional skill in a desired domain with expert mentorship. Introductory Mastery courses in 9th grade allow students to work their way to capstone projects in grade 12.

MASTERY LEARNING SYSTEM (MLS) (Grades 10–12)

The Mastery Learning System (MLS) is a highly selective academic pathway where students exchange up to half of their regular coursework with self-directed, interdisciplinary projects of exceptional depth. Admission follows a rigorous application and faculty review, including performance in the required 9th-grade Principles of HIP & Mastery courses. MLS cohorts typically number about 25 students.

MLS students pursue ambitious, often multi-year investigations—ranging from building a small-scale nuclear fusor to founding a high-school law journal or presenting original ecology research at a professional conference. Projects are approved and guided by faculty and, when appropriate, mentored or evaluated by outside experts, many with advanced degrees or significant professional expertise. Students defend their work in public oral presentations and, during senior year, complete a comprehensive reading exam based on a 20–30 book list they curate with mentors.

Anchored in the [Avenues World Elements \(AWE\)](#) framework, MLS graduates demonstrate broad academic mastery, deep specialization, and a collaborative, autonomy-driven culture. Their projects have earned awards at national competitions, external grants, and venture-capital funding, signaling exceptional initiative and real-world impact.

Mastery Learning System courses appear on student transcripts preceded by the word "Mastery."

Additional Courses Available to MLS Students:

Mastery: Elements Workshop: MLS juniors extend their Mastery experience by selecting and studying 3 interdisciplinary topics. This foundational experience offers additional time for research, mentorship, and deep integration of chosen themes into their ongoing projects and Record Conference presentations

Mastery: 11th and 12th Grade Research Intensive: Students in 11th and 12th grades who have a keen interest in a specific discipline class may elect to exchange one of their Mastery: English, World or Science class and enroll in a Mastery: Research Intensive class.

Mastery: Senior Capstone: Seniors in this capstone class will develop and present an original, large-scale senior project to our community. This Mastery seminar has an additional academic component built around an exploration of the science and psychology of creativity.

LANGUAGE IMMERSION

Avenues New York provides language immersion in Spanish and Mandarin Chinese from nursery through 5th grade. In 6th grade, students transition to intensive study of their chosen language, which includes language classes augmented by electives, clubs, and study abroad programs.



avenuesnewyork
avenues-the-world-school



avenuesed
avenues_org



+1 646.664.0800
admissions@avenues-ny.org
www.avenues.org/ny

Avenues New York
259 10th Avenue
New York, NY 10001
CEE Code: 333776

Avenues The World School

Signature Programs cont.

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED MATHEMATICS

The Institute for Advanced Mathematics (IAM) is Avenues' most rigorous mathematics track, open only to students of exceptional mastery and commitment through a highly competitive application process. Over several years, students retrace the chronological development of mathematics — from 17,000 BCE to the modern day— while completing coursework equivalent to Prealgebra through Calculus (single- and often multivariable). Beyond the typical foundational topics, students also explore mathematical fields broadly, covering advanced material such as Number Theory and Diophantine Equations. Students undertake independent and collaborative research in both pure and applied mathematics, and many aim to publish work in peer-reviewed publications. IAM students also compete in mathematics contests, from local NYC competitions to the USAMO. The program's blend of independence, collaboration, historical scope, and rigorous academic engagement offers students an ambitious learning pathway that emphasizes robust, intentional engagement with mathematics in its many forms.

INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCED STUDY OF ETHICS AND THE COMMON GOOD

New in the 2025-26 school year, the Institute is an accelerated program with a highly competitive admissions process for exceptionally talented students. Beginning in 10th grade, the three-year curriculum—focused on the question, “what is the common good?”—integrates the study of moral philosophy, political science, sociology, Constitutional law, and current events. The course highlights debates over the role and purpose of government in human life. Year 1, for instance, students read Plato and Aristotle, Jefferson and Madison, Orwell and Lenin, and John Rawls, Robert Nozick, and Peter Singer, among other thinkers. Guest speakers, field trips, and research projects augment daily classroom discussions of college-level texts. In Year 3, students pursue capstone projects, including shadowing an organizational leader, holding a public symposium on a political topic, and making a creative work related to the themes of the Institute.

HIGH-INTENSITY PRACTICE

Students in grades 6-10 develop a set of thinking skills related to the brain's key executive functions through frequent, sustained, deliberate practice over a number of years, focusing on working memory, cognitive flexibility, and inhibitory control. **High Intensity Practice (HIP)** routines and learning are incorporated across multiple subject areas and build the intellectual “muscle memory” that will enable students to unleash their creativity while staying focused in college and beyond.

ROAM FELLOWSHIP

The **Roam Fellowship** is a 4-year program for the top 1% of our grade 9 applicants and 5% of the current grade 8 who we believe are most likely to run with the opportunities of an upper grades education at Avenues and start making contributions to the world right away. Fellows receive a \$25,000 stipend to be used in support of their academic and co-curricular pursuits during their upper grades years. They also participate in a non-credit salon-style monthly seminar featuring guest speakers. The class of 2025 will be the first 4-year cohort to graduate.

Relevant College Counseling Policies

Avenues students apply to a maximum of 15 colleges. We expect students to be truthful in the submission of all application materials and in reporting disciplinary violations to colleges. Deans review all applications for accuracy, at each level of reporting, including leadership status and club participation.

Regarding admission to an early decision (ED) school, a stated “first choice” single-choice early action (SCEA) school, a stated “first choice” restrictive early action (REA) school, or any other stated “first choice” early action (EA) school, Avenues treats SCEA, REA and first-choice EA admission with the same level of commitment as an Early Decision Agreement. Upon admission under these circumstances, students are required to withdraw all other applications within 24 hours and submit no new applications in the US or any other country.

University Matriculation, Classes of 2023–2025

American University –District of Columbia (3)	Reed College
Amherst College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Babson College (3)	Rice University
Bard College (2)	Rochester Institute of Technology
Barnard College	Rollins College
Bates College	Royal Holloway, University of London
Binghamton University	Rutgers University–New Brunswick (2)
Boston College–Massachusetts (5)	San Diego State University
Boston University (10)	Santa Clara University (3)
Bowdoin College	Scripps College
Brandeis University	Skidmore College
Brown University (3)	Smith College
Bryn Mawr College (2)	Southern Methodist University
Carnegie Mellon University (5)	Stanford University (2)
Case Western Reserve University	Stevens Institute of Technology
Chapman University (2)	Syracuse University (9)
Clark University (4)	Temple University
Colgate University (2)	Texas Christian University (2)
Columbia University in the City of New York (4)	The American University of Paris (3)
Connecticut College	The Pennsylvania State University –Main Campus (3)
Cornell University (18)	The University of British Columbia
CUNY Hunter College	The University of Texas at Austin (2)
CUNY Lehman College	Trinity College Dublin (2)
Denison University	Tufts University (4)
Duke University (4)	Tulane University of Louisiana (10)
Elon University (2)	University of California–Berkeley (2)
Emory University (4)	University of California–Santa Barbara
George Washington University (5)	University of Chicago (2)
Georgetown University (8)	University of Colorado Boulder
Grinnell College	University of Glasgow
Hamilton College (6)	University of Miami (3)
Hampshire College	University of Michigan– Ann Arbor (11)
Harvard University (2)	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2)
Howard University (3)	University of Pennsylvania (8)
Indiana University–Bloomington	University of Richmond (2)
Johns Hopkins University (5)	University of Rochester (5)
King's College London, University of London	University of San Diego
Lehigh University	University of Southern California (7)
Loyola Marymount University (4)	University of St Andrews (8)
Manhattan University (2)	University of Toronto (3)
Marist University	University of Vermont (2)
McGill University	University of Washington –Seattle Campus
Michigan State University	University of Wisconsin–Madison (7)
Middlebury College (2)	Vanderbilt University
Morehouse College	Vassar College
New York University (17)	Villanova University (2)
Northeastern University (16)	Wake Forest University
Northwestern University	Washington University in St. Louis (3)
Occidental College	Wellesley College (3)
Ohio State University–Main Campus (3)	Wesleyan University (3)
Otis College of Art and Design	William & Mary (2)
Parsons School of Design (2)	Williams College (4)
Pomona College	Yale University (4)
Princeton University (3)	
Purdue University–Main Campus (2)	