The Bridge Year Program

College Preparatory Programs
Queens College & Townsend Harris High School Collaboration

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http://cpp.qc.cuny.edu
What is the Bridge Year Program?

A highlight of the Queens College/Townsend Harris High School collaboration is the Bridge Year Program. During their fourth year at Townsend Harris High School, all seniors enroll at Queens College as non-matriculated students, taking six credits per semester of college-level courses on the college campus, often with other Queens College students. These accredited courses extend beyond the Townsend Harris curriculum requirements. The Bridge Year for seniors is an opportunity that provides them with authentic and rigorous preparation for college.

Three credits per semester are earned in the Freshman Humanities Colloquium, which is a “Great Books” course, team-taught in a seminar-style setting by Queens College faculty and THHS faculty. The seminars emphasize reading, writing, and student-led discussion and are patterned on Queens College’s Honors in the Humanities seminars.

Students also enroll each semester in a three-credit Queens College elective course of his or her choice, giving students an exceptional opportunity to explore various disciplinary offerings at the college.

Why the Bridge Year?

The Bridge Year is designed to ease the students’ transition from high school to college through early exposure to college-level work. Students are able to adjust to the much greater freedom that exists on college campuses, while learning the responsibility necessary to handle that freedom. Through this unique collaboration with Queens College, Townsend Harris High School students receive a snapshot into the college experience while still in high school.

Queens College Writing Fellow

This writing professional works with THHS faculty and students on a variety of projects – including curriculum modules and in-class student workshops – as well as meeting individually with students to review papers for classes and essays for college and scholarship applications. The Writing Fellow holds in-person office hours in the THHS Library as well as virtual office hours in the evenings.

Senior Program Course Requirements

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GENERAL INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES
Daily attendance is mandatory, just as it is for all other high school students. If you have a THHS class during Band 2, your official attendance will be taken there. All other students must sign in daily in THHS Room 334 during the posted hours. Absences are reported to the student’s parents/guardians and the THHS Dean. The only legal reasons for absence are illness, a death in the family, religious observance, or court appearance. Students are required to present a note after they are absent from school. Absences due to illness of three or more consecutive days require a note from a doctor.

The school day for seniors is from 7:15am-3:02pm. Students may have periods of free time during the day, which should be utilized for studying and homework.

CUTTING
Cutting the Humanities Colloquium or Senior Meeting is reported to parents/guardians and the Dean whenever it occurs. Students will incur demerits, and this may affect the students’ ability to participate in senior activities, be in honor societies, be on teams, and/or to receive awards.

BOOK AND MATERIAL COSTS
- Tuition for the Humanities Colloquium and a 3-credit college elective course each semester are covered by College Preparatory Programs. If a student registers for an elective course carrying more than three credits, it is the student’s responsibility to pay the cost for the additional credit(s) – currently $305 per credit.
- Books for the Humanities Colloquium will generally be provided to the students.
- Books for QC elective courses must be purchased by the student. If the online course description does not list the required texts, students should expect to receive such a list from their professor on the first day of classes at the end of August.
- Several college courses require MAT (Material and Transportation) fees which the student must pay directly to the bursar’s office. Failure to pay MAT fees, which are indicated in the online course description and on the Queens College bill, will result in a student receiving notices from collection agencies, and a hold on your transcript.

SENIOR CLASS MEETING
A senior class meeting is held every Wednesday during Band 7 in the Townsend Harris High School auditorium. Attendance is mandatory for all students except those with a scheduled college class.

PROGRAM CHANGE REQUESTS:
If for any reason students have problems with their programs:
1. Before June 26th, they should communicate with their guidance counselors at the high school
2. After June 26th, they should contact the College Preparatory Programs Office on the Queens College campus at (718) 997-3175 or email at QC.CPP@qc.cuny.edu.
SCHOOL CLOSINGS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER
In the event of inclement weather, all students are urged to contact the high school and the college to determine if classes will be in session.

- If Queens College is closed and Townsend Harris H.S. is open, seniors MUST report to the high school building for attendance sign-in and further instructions.
- If Townsend Harris is closed and Queens College is open, students are expected to report to their college classes.

All students and parents can also sign up for CUNYA!ert (http://www.cuny.edu/news/alert.html) in order to receive notifications in the event of a Queens College closing or emergency event.

QUEENS COLLEGE ID CARD
All THHS students should have already been issued a Queens College photo-I.D. card. College regulations require students to carry their ID cards on campus and to present them to a member of the faculty or staff if requested to do so. The ID card carries the privilege of using Queens College facilities. Lost I.D. cards must be replaced.

NOTE: Your ID card is not transferable to anyone. To replace a lost or stolen card:
- Go to the Q-Card office in the campus Dining Hall, room 116-A.
- Pay the $10.00 replacement fee
- Retake picture, if necessary

MID-YEAR & END-YEAR GRADES
Townsend Harris High School sends mid-year (end of January) and end-year (end of June) high school and Queens College grades to all colleges to which students have submitted applications. Colleges may count your Queens College course grades in your college GPA. The grades you earn in your Queens College classes (Humanities and electives) are part of your Queens College undergraduate transcript; so, if you remain at, or ever return to, Queens College, they will be factored into your overall QC GPA.

TAKING COLLEGE COURSES IS A PRIVILEGE
Tuition-free enrollment in Queens College courses is an integral part of the Townsend Harris High School Bridge Year. It is also a privilege. To help ensure that students use this privilege responsibly, the following policies are in effect:

- Students who receive a WU (Withdrawal, Unofficial) in a college course in the fall semester endanger their enrollment in any college elective for the spring semester. WU is the grade assigned when a student has stopped attending and/or submitting work in a course without formally withdrawing. It counts as an F.
- Students who have excessive absences without valid excuses during the fall semester may not be permitted to enroll in any college electives in the spring.

IMPORTANT: All programs at Queens College and Townsend Harris High School may be affected by budgetary constraints and are subject to local policies.