**Visual Art Course Descriptions**

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| **Course** | **Description** | **Pre-Req.** | **Media** | **Tools** | **Behavior** | **Outcome** |
| **Visual Art 1A/1B** | **In this entry level class students will explore a variety of materials to create art while learning basic vocabulary, techniques, styles, art criticism, art history and art appreciation.** | **none** | **Students will use a variety of media, including but not limited to: tempera paint, graphite, ink, charcoal, watercolor, markers, glue, clay, glaze, and colored pencils** | **Scissors, rulers, X-acto knives, carving and sculpting tools, hot glue guns, organized sketchbook / binder** | **Students must be able to work well both independently and in a group cooperatively and responsibly.** | **Students will develop a portfolio, learn the basic concepts of art, gain experience using a variety of art mediums, and will be pushed to be more creative thinkers.** |
| **Art for Illustration**  **1A/1B** | **This intermediate art course addresses many aspects of commercial art / illustration, with an emphasis on line drawing, strip cartoons, and animation. Projects will include caricature portraits, children’s book illustration, product design, character design, film / music / media design, computer animation, and much more. Students will build technical drawing skills, develop a personal artistic style, and learn how to use computer illustration and animation software.** | **Grades 10-12**  **Visual Art 1A/1B or Instructor approval** | **Students will use a variety of drawing / art media: graphite, ink, colored pencils, charcoal, pastels, markers, watercolor, acrylics, illustration board, and computer software for both illustration (Adobe Illustrator) and 3D modeling / animation** | **Sketchbook, drawing tools, computers** | **Students must be able to work well independently, problem solve, reflect, self-evaluate, manage time, engage in group critiques, give feedback, and work both cooperatively and responsibly.** | **Students will develop an illustration portfolio of creative traditional and digital works of art, learn and practice skills and concepts related to commercial artwork, become more creative thinkers, gain further experience using a variety of art media, and enter art shows.** |
| **Drawing and Painting 1A/1B** | **This is an intermediate course with a focus on drawing and painting. Students must be interested in increasing technical skills. Students will draw and paint exclusively with advanced materials with a strong emphasis placed on artistic growth both in skill and individual expression. This is a prep class for AP Studio Art.** | **Grades 10-12**  **“C” or better in VA 1A/1B or**  **Instructor approval** | **All advanced drawing and painting media will be used and explored; students will use canvases and easels for painting; students may need to purchase materials for home use** | **Scissors, X-acto knives** | **Students must be independent, problem solvers, goal oriented, effective communicators, able to take constructive criticism, and be self-reflecting.** | **A portfolio of approximately 15 pieces, a digital portfolio, art show experience.** |
| **AP Studio Art**  **1A/1B**  **Drawing/Painting**  **2D (photography) 3D (ceramics)** | **This course is designed for highly motivated and responsible students interested in the serious study of art. The goal of this course is to complete a portfolio of a minimum of 24 pieces of artwork which will be broken into 3 separate portfolios for the evaluation by the AP Board. This course will require work outside the classroom and artwork in this course is not censored.** | **Grades 11 and 12**  **“C” or better in Visual Art 1A/1B, “B” or better in Art for Illustration or Drawing /Painting or Instructor approval of portfolio** | **Any and all media and materials can be used in this course depending on the student’s choice of portfolio; students may need to purchase materials for home use** | **Scissors, X-acto knives, carving and sculpting tools, hot glue guns, etc.** | **Students must be independent, problem solvers, goal oriented, effective communicators, able to take constructive criticism, and be self-reflecting.** | **A breadth portfolio of 12 pieces, a concentration portfolio of 12 pieces, a quality portfolio of 5 pieces, a digital portfolio, art show experience, possible college credit upon passing of the Board Exam, letter of recommendation.** |
| **Ceramics 1A/1B** | **This course introduces the clay medium, its qualities and potential. Students will explore hand-built and wheel thrown construction, glazing, and surface decoration.** | **none** | **Pottery Tools, Clay and Glazes** | **Some of the pottery tools may be sharp and can be dangerous if not used appropriately.** | **Students must be able to work with moving machines, accept getting dirty, and having to clean up after themselves.** | **Students will have a concrete understanding of the medium of clay, be able to plan out the process of building ceramic objects using the three hand building methods and use the wheel to throw simple shapes.** |
| **Ceramics 2A/2B** | **This is a continuation course in ceramics in which students will continue to refine their construction, glazing and decoration techniques.** | **Grades 10-12**  **Ceramics 1A/1B** | **Pottery Tools, Clay and Glazes** | **Some of the pottery tools may be sharp and can be dangerous if not used appropriately.** | **Students must be able to work independently and be willing to share their knowledge with others.** | **Students will be able to create their own objectives and requirements in an effort to find their own ceramic style. The students will be able to resolve the problems which evolve thru the ceramic process.** |
| **Digital Photography 1A/1B** | **This is an introductory course designed for students interested in digital photography, operating a DSLR camera, editing and lighting. Manual camera operation, composition and the history of photography are covered. The initial focus is on the camera and the ability to see ad express and idea through a photographic image. The second part of the class focuses on the computer, digital manipulation, output and display.** | **none** | **Mac computers, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator** | **Binder, cameras and computers** | **Due to the high cost of items in this class, only students with mature behavior will be allowed to sign up. No students with a record of theft allowed.** | **Electronic portfolio and work in black and white and color; knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator; knowledge of basic indoor/outdoor light using reflectors and studio lights; training in portrait shooting.** |
| **Digital Photography 2/A/2B** | **This course is the continuation of digital photography 1A/1B where students will continue to learn and refine aspects of the camera and the manipulation of images on the computer.** | **Grades 10-12**  **Digital Photography 1A/1B** | **Mac computers, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator** | **Binder, cameras and computers** | **Due to the high cost of items in this class, only students with mature behavior will be allowed to sign up. No students with a record of theft allowed.** | **Electronic portfolio of approximately 30 pieces, extended knowledge of indoor and outdoor lighting, students will work on specific projects for the school at the request of staff & administration.** |
| **Graphic Design 1A/1B** | **This course will cover graphic design concepts such as typography, perspective, layout composition, aesthetics, and visual communication. Students will develop skills in artistic perception and critiquing while becoming artist, designers, critical thinkers and problem solvers.** | **none** | **Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator** | **Computers, cameras, Wacom Tablets** | **Students must be able to memorize many tools, functions, and menus with the adobe programs. They must be creative and work well with others** | **Graphic Design will teach them the skills needed in order to pursue a graphic design at the collegiate level. Students will become proficient with the Adobe programs.** |
| **Graphic Design 2A/2B** | **This is an advanced course that will give students the opportunity to expand upon their previously acquired skills. This course will provide an overview of relevant cultural contexts and will prepare students for graphic design at the collegiate level.** | **Grades 10-12**  **Graphic Design 1A/1B** | **Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and In-Design** | **Computers, cameras, Wacom Tablets** | **Students must be able to memorize many tools, functions, and menus with the adobe programs. They must be creative and work well with others.** | **Graphic Design will teach them the skills needed in order to pursue a graphic design at the collegiate level. Students will become proficient with the Adobe programs.** |
| **AP Art**  **History**  **1A/1B** | **This academic fine art course is designed to provide the same instruction as an introductory college level course in global art history, surveying both traditional “Western” Art and art from various “Non-Western” lands and cultures, from Prehistoric times to the present day. Students develop a personal aesthetic appreciation for, and advanced skills in analysis (both formal and contextual) of hundreds of works of painting, sculpture, architecture, and other art forms – from a diverse range of time periods and global cultures. Students are strongly encouraged to obtain college credit by preparing for and taking the AP Examination in Art History.** | **Grades 11-12; Lang. Arts 2A/2B (“C” or better); Preferably, students have already taken an AP or Honors course with a strong emphasis on analytical writing (Social Studies and/or Literature)** | **Textbook, pen and paper (note-taking!), printed articles, flash cards, images of artworks, computers, internet access from home, presentation software (PowerPoint / Prezi), presentation folders for research papers / essays; rare “hands-on” art experiences / projects may utilize: charcoal, paint, clay, various art media** | **Textbook, organized folder / binder, computer with internet access / word processor / presentation software** | **Students must be willing to read, write, study, manage time, share knowledge / ideas in small groups / class setting, exercise communication skills, use visual and documented evidence to make claims / infer meaning, apply deductive reasoning, and work to become proficient at writing essays.** | **Students will obtain college credit in Art History (if they pass the AP Exam), assemble a vast collection of notes and flashcards on works of art and architecture from global cultures / time periods (Prehistoric to Contemporary), gain experience in analyzing art and citing evidence, experience with visiting art museums and galleries, and develop a desire to travel the world and continue to study art.** |