



EXPERIENCING THE ARTS IN HIGH SCHOOL

Oratory

A full year course designed to prepare the student to communicate in the world today. The course includes study of why and how people communicate, how to improve communication, and finally, public speaking. The public speaking section includes speaking to inform, speaking to persuade, introduction to debate and argumentation, speaking to entertain, and oral interpretation.

DC Oratory

This is a dual credit course with online instruction through LeTourneau University. A study of basic communication principles, with emphasis placed on public speaking. Topics include classical origins of communication, communication theory, speech development and organization, use of visual aids, and strategies for informative, persuasive, and special occasion speeches. Students have multiple speaking opportunities in class. NOTE: This is a General Education core course for all degrees.

High School Drama (cannot be taken twice)

Theatre Arts is a full year course designed to introduce the student to all aspects of drama and theatre production. Students will study acting techniques, structure of dramatic literature, theatre history, varieties of drama, as well as all the aspects of play and musical production. Students will study fundamentals of scene design, costuming, make-up, lighting and full production requirements. Theatre Arts is required before students move into any other drama class.

Theatre Production

Theatre Production is designed for the serious drama student. The class will work extensively on scene and character development, scene structure, play writing and theatre history. The class is designed to prepare the student to enter drama programs in the University level. Students will be required to be involved in all drama department productions including but not limited to one act, winter production and the spring musical. *Audition required for admittance.

Rhetorical (Competitive Debate)

The class is offered to students who desire to compete in speech competitions. The course includes work in Lincoln Douglas debate, PF (team) debate, Original Oratory, Standard Oratory, and Extemporaneous Speaking. Students will be required to compete in two tournaments per semester. Speech Communications is desired, but not required.

*Instructor permission required.

Stagecraft

The student will develop hands-on knowledge of methods and principles of backstage production. We will discuss and incorporate proper theatre safety procedures. The student will gain basic skills and working vocabulary in scenery, lighting, property construction, scene painting, and sound. Students will be required to crew for a minimum of one show per semester. *Instructor permission required.

Praise & Worship (Grades 9-12)

This class is a training ground for those interested in the ministry of being part of a praise and worship band. Members of the class will lead praise and worship for High School Chapel. Class time will include practice and musical instruction with intense Bible study. This course counts as a Fine Arts credit.

Art I (Grades 9-12 - cannot be taken twice)

Students will develop skills in drawing, painting, and a variety of media while exploring personal visual ideas. Success is not dependent on a student's previous skills. Experimentation in a wide range of styles and materials is encouraged and the principles and elements of art are emphasized. While engaged in creative thinking, the right side of the brain develops. This benefits thinking in all other subjects as well, since creating ideas and solutions is considered one of the highest levels of thinking. This course also covers basic art history but emphasizes production of art. Students exhibit in the All School Spring Art Show and are invited to join Art Club. Students produce work for the art fundraiser 10 X 10 show and sale.

Art II (Grades 10-12)

Art II is for students who have taken Art I or who have some past experience in making art, and who have a sustained interest in producing art. High skill drawing level is not required. Art II students enter competitions, take a field trip, and are invited to apply for National Art Honor Society. Art II is a good stepping stone to AP Studio Art, or just a more serious study. Art II produces 2D and 3D art in a variety of mediums, including graphite, ink, charcoal, acrylics and watercolor. Students are introduced to 3D work and photography. Study includes the principles of design and covers basic art history, highlighting artists that have made important artistic contributions. Perspective drawing, as well as portraiture, still life, op art, architectural, interior and/or fashion design are covered. Art II may be taken more than one year as lessons rotate. Students exhibit in the All School Spring Art Show. Students in 10-12 grades who have not taken Art I but wish to take Art II will conference with the Art II teacher before being accepted.

Ceramics I and Ceramics II (Grades 11 & 12 - one semester)

Students will learn basic and advanced techniques for constructing artwork in clay and how to apply design and glaze. The clay wheel is part of the curriculum. This class has a limit of 15 students and a supply fee is collected. Students who have successfully completed Ceramics I will be enrolled in Ceramics II.

Photography (Grades 11 & 12 - one semester)

Photography class curriculum emphasizes both technical photography skills as well as creative elements that must be present in powerful photography. Students will become familiar with photographers whose work has impacted history and art, including current photographers around the world. Students will enter competitions and exhibit in the Spring Art Show. This class is limited to 15 students and a supply fee is collected. Students should have use of a digital 35 mm camera but may take this class even if they do not have access to one. Students will be required to turn in prints of their photos and keep a digital folder up to date.

AP Studio Art: Drawing/AP Studio Art: 2-D Design (Grade 12)

AP Studio Art is two separate classes:

AP Drawing/Painting focuses on the drawing/painting techniques and mediums. AP 2D Design focuses on the production of art based on the principles of design, and work in drawing, painting, photography and computer art. Each student selects which medium they want to focus on.

AP Studio Art is a fast-paced college level course that is both rigorous and exciting. Students will produce college level artworks and submit a portfolio for college credit. In both courses, students select a topic to develop visually into an exhibit, called an "investigation" and also produce works representing a variety of ideas and/or mediums.

AP Studio Art develops the artist's imagination and ability to conceptualize. Students are part of a small group in AP Art who mentor one another and build community. Students take field trips, enter competitions, and explore specialty materials and methods. Students have their own art space in the AP Art Studio and are a major part of the Metro Spring Art Show, as well as other exhibits, including Gilcrease Museum of Art. All AP Art students are invited to apply for National Art Honor Society and wear an honor cord at graduation. Students will produce artwork they will treasure for the rest of their lives. Interested students are accepted through application and teacher interview.

Studio Art Lab

A class hour used to extend work time for AP Studio art students. Students work independently on current assignments. This class is limited to students enrolled in AP Studio Art. There is no credit earned for this class.

High School Band

An advanced ensemble, each member must have at least three years experience. Activities include: Concert Band, Marching Band, various contests, and a student-funded spring trip/tour. All students are expected to prepare All-District Band audition music and District Solo & Ensemble etudes. Private lesson instruction is strongly recommended. *Instructors permission required.

Beginning Band

The rental or purchase of a musical instrument and purchase of individual method book is necessary. Activities include a Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, and some type of competitive contest in the spring. Private lesson instruction is strongly recommended.

Jazz Band

The Jazz/Pep Band is an elite ensemble that studies all forms of jazz, swing, blues, funk, rock, fusion, and Latin. There is an emphasis on music theory and improvisation. This band also serves as the school pep band during the Spring Semester. Activities include: public performances, Christmas concert(s), Select Basketball games, a competitive contest, and a possible spring trip/tour. *Instructor's permission required.

Music Theory

The study of how music works. It examines the language and notation of music. It seeks to identify patterns and structures in composers' techniques within genres, styles, or historical periods. Music theory analyzes the fundamental elements of music—rhythm, harmony (harmonic function), melody, structure, form, texture, etc. In the second semester, students will learn to compose an original song using their knowledge of music theory.

Creative Writing and Film Production

This class combines creative writing—that of poetry, short stories, screenplays, etc.—with basic film production: introducing students to filmmaking's tools, techniques, and terminology. By integrating the skills and knowledge developed in the creative process, students will work both independently and collaboratively to produce several works of written art, short films, and other varied exercises. Students will also analyze films from all genres and decades and learn the fundamentals of various film equipment.