

Fine and Performing Arts Course Offerings 2017-2018

Two-Semester Courses

Studio Art: 2-semester course, 1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Students who take Studio Art learn the basics of drawing and painting, including both one and two-point perspective, shading, portraits, assessing composition, and using a grid to help capture correct proportions. Once students master the basics, they are encouraged to explore their own interests. Students are exposed to different media such as pencil, pen and ink, acrylic, oil pastels, watercolor, chalk pastels, oil sticks, and collage. Students work at their own pace, with the emphasis on quality rather than meeting deadlines. Homework is assigned on a weekly basis. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Honors Advanced Studio Art: 2-semester course, 1 credit

Prerequisites:

1. consistent success in Studio Art, with a final grade of **90** or higher

AND

2. invitation of the instructor

Students who are truly inspired and wish to focus more on their artistic skills will be invited to join the Advanced Studio Art Honors class. With an emphasis on personal growth and exploring different media, students can work on producing pieces suitable for a portfolio or just make time for exploring their creativity each day. Students are assigned themes to start and are then encouraged to find areas of interest to explore on their own, with guidance along the way. Field trips and drawing from life help round out the artist's skills. Homework is assigned on a weekly basis. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Pottery: 2-semester course, 1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Students who take Pottery learn the basics of working with clay; they are taught how to make projects on the potter's wheel, by hand, and they learn different options for adding decoration. Students will complete projects before the end of the semester, interpreting them as creatively as possible. These projects are intended to help them learn the limits of the clay and how to push those limits. Students can achieve true mastery of the wheel, with regular practice; it is remarkable how rewarding eating out of a bowl you've made from a lump of clay can be! *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

AP Art History: 2-semester course, 1 credit art or social studies

Prerequisites:

1. minimum average of **87** in previous history course

AND

2. PSAT 8/9, PSAT, or SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing score of **540 or higher**
ACT, ACT-PLAN and PreACT English or critical reading score of **21**

AND

3. high level of interest in the study of history

In this course, students will develop an understanding of major forms of artistic expression from the past and the present, including architecture, sculpture, painting, and other media. We will examine works from both historical and cultural perspectives and learn to objectively and critically analyze artworks to better understand the time and place in which they were created. Students will come to appreciate works of art from other cultures and understand them, using the aesthetic criteria of those cultures. The art they examine will help students understand how cultures influence and interact with one another. They will also learn how art history, a discipline emphasizing social context, is a field that makes connections between many other disciplines.

Fall Semester Courses

Photography: 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: None

In this course, students will understand photography as an art form, and they will develop their own personal photographic styles, as they examine the work of several photographers in various genres. They will have the opportunity to explore different techniques in both film and digital photography. In the darkroom students will learn basic skills, including making contact sheets, testing strips, and printing from negatives. As their skills progress and they stretch their creativity, students will be able to make double exposure and merged prints, focusing on the concept of composition. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Theatre: One-Act: 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: None

During fall semester, students in this class rehearse and perform a one-act play. The play is chosen to fit and to challenge the entire class. Plays may be adaptations, original student works, or class collaborative works. Most students choose to perform; however, they can choose to serve as stage managers or tech crew. The one-act is performed at the North Carolina Theatre Conference Annual One-Act Festival and

at CDS as well. While working on the play, students focus on ensemble acting technique, individual craft, and on freeing the creative impulse. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Theatre: Advanced One-Act: 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites:

1. Theatre: One-Act

Students opting for Advanced designation take on increasingly more complex roles, provide leadership, and explore advanced techniques while working on the One-Act. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Theatre: Technical and Production: 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: None

Students develop the skills to execute theatrical scenery and lighting with an emphasis on lighting. The class first collaborates on building the set for the Upper School One-Act. Students then move to executing the lighting design for the Upper School One-Act, Lower School musical, Middle School musical, Middle School winter concert and Upper School Fall Concert. As the semester progresses, students take on more responsibility for conceptualizing and assisting in the lighting design process.

Theatre: Acting and Performance: 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: None

In this semester-long class, students will explore the craft of acting for the stage. The class will engage traditional and contemporary acting techniques and methods with the goal of both freeing and disciplining the creative spirit. Students will learn to analyze characters for performance and use the analysis to create physical, vocal and emotional manifestations of characters. Students will gain practice in effectively communicating to an audience by performing scenes, monologues, and improvisations within the class setting.

Digital Art and Media: 1-semester course, Fall, 1 credit art or elective

Prerequisites: None

In this course, students will playfully create a variety of image-based projects using tools employed by professional graphic designers, such as Adobe Photoshop, Indesign, and Illustrator. They will apply and manipulate the elements of effective design, such as balance, color harmony, and asymmetry, to fit specific purposes and audiences. Students will collaborate with artists, businesses, and organizations to gain real-world experience with graphic design. Students must have regular access to a computer.

Instrumental Ensembles: 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: Ability to play a musical instrument at an intermediate level

Students with previous experience playing an instrument (woodwinds, brass, percussion, violin, viola, cello, bass, ukulele, guitar, mandolin, banjo, accordion, and piano) are invited to join Instrumental Ensembles. The class will be arranged to provide an ensemble experience and musical outlet for students by performing formal Art Music (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and more) and/or Contemporary music (Jazz, Rock, and World-Fusion). Instructional class time will be balanced with ensemble time and independent practice. Students will become familiar with all aspects of performance and development of individual instrument proficiency, and will learn the arts of practicing and development of musicianship, technical competence, stylistic interpretation, performance practices, and study of the repertoire. Individual ensembles (orchestra, wildcat band, rock band, jazz ensemble, string ensembles, and more) will have the opportunity to perform on and off campus. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Chorale: 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: Open to all students without audition

This student vocal ensemble will sing a full spectrum of choral music with a varied and eclectic repertoire drawn from western art music, and popular and ethnic music from many cultures sung in many languages, promoting understanding of the world and our place in it. The CDS Chorale will perform several times each semester. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Music Cultures of the World: 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: None – Suitable for all levels of music experience. Previous musical training is not required, and non-musicians are encouraged to enroll.

Music plays a unique role in our lives, communicating through both our emotions and intellect. An understanding of its fundamentals can lead to an entirely new way of thinking and experiencing the world. After a basic introduction to musical language, students explore styles and composers across cultures, and various periods of Western and non-Western art and popular music, including jazz, rock, folk, and more. Specific compositions will be examined for the inspiration of their creation, their historical context, and underlying associations and symbols within the music. The class will include assigned reading and listening, lecture, guest artists, and off-campus excursions to local musical events.

Creative Writing: Creative Nonfiction: W, 1-semester course, Fall, 0.5 credit art or English

Prerequisites:

1. Rhetoric and Composition 2

In this course, students will delve deeply into self-discovery through the art of creative nonfiction. They will read and analyze published works, examine essays and articles on craft, and regularly engage in guided writing activities inside and outside of class. Students will also share their work both informally and in structured workshops. By the end of the course, students will have created many original works including flash creative nonfiction pieces, vignettes, memoir pieces, and personal essays.

Spring Semester Courses

Product Design: 1-semester course, Spring, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: None

Using Design Thinking Methodology, students in this hands-on class work as a design team to collaboratively and creatively solve a product challenge. Product designers look at issues of form and function of everyday objects, with the important understanding of keeping the end-user in mind. ~~When~~ Students brainstorm ideas, create designs, conduct research, draw sketches, create models, and make functional prototypes. With their knowledge of Design Thinking Methodology, students learn to apply their skills and understandings to any problem. *Note: This course may be taken for art or elective credit.

Theatre: Technical and Production: 1-semester course, Spring, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: None

Students develop the skills to execute theatrical scenery, lighting and stage management. The class collaborates first on building the set for the Upper School mainstage production. Then students move to executing the lighting designs for the Upper School show, the Middle School spring concert, Arts Day Showcase, Upper School concert, and Salon Rouge. Students also have the opportunity to stage manage many of the spring term events. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Theatre: Stage Combat: 1-semester course, Spring, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: None

Stage Combat is a combination of martial art, dance, and acting technique. In this class students develop the skills necessary to safely and effectively perform unarmed and armed stage fight choreography. Techniques include single rapier, rapier and dagger, smallsword, quarterstaff and unarmed. In addition to the partnering skills of the choreography, students learn care and maintenance of theatrical weapons, choreography notation, and physical storytelling.

Theatre: Advanced Stage Combat: 1-semester course, Spring, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites:

1. Theatre: Stage Combat

Students in this class will continue to build and hone their skills as they learn additional weapon forms and advanced techniques and choreography. *Note: This course may be repeated for credit.

Theatre: Playwriting: 1-semester course, Spring, 0.5 credit

Prerequisites:

1. Successful completion of R & C 1

Through a series of graduated and differentiated writing exercises, students will gain experience with the varied challenges and possibilities of writing for the stage. All work will be read aloud in class in a workshop atmosphere. With the successful completion of each exercise, students will develop the skills necessary to complete a short one-act play as the final assignment. Students may have the opportunity to hear their completed plays read aloud in a public setting.

Instrumental Ensembles: 1-semester course, Spring, 0.5 credit

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listening, lecture, guest artists, and off-campus excursions to local musical events.

Creative Writing: Fiction: W, 1-semester course, Spring, 0.5 credit art or English

Prerequisites:

1. Rhetoric and Composition 2

In this course, students will develop their confidence and skills to create effective, satisfying stories regarding plot, characterization, setting, dialogue, theme, and pacing. Students will engage in guided writing exercises, sharing their writing, studying/emulating professional writers' techniques, and reading specific suggestions for crafting elements of fiction. They will respond to prompts, submit manuscripts, and receive feedback from the teacher and also as they participate in workshops discussing the strengths and making suggestions regarding each other's strongest writing piece. Students will create many original pieces of fiction, and three of those pieces will be polished—ready to submit to our school's literary magazine and other publications.