

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Graduation requirement: one visual and performing arts credit

Arts	Art I or Art I Honors is a prerequisite for later classes; students then progress to more advanced courses, including Art II Honors, Painting A and B, Printmaking, Drawing A and B, AP Drawing, and AP 2-D Art and Design
Music	Band (offered all four years), Honors Jazz Combo (by audition), Music Theory, Steel Band I-IV
Arts in other areas	Photo, Adobe Photoshop, 2D Illustration and Animation, 3D Computer Modeling, Culinary Arts, Design and Engineering Tech, Architectural Design, Earthworks A and B, Dance I-IV

Course #	Course Title	Grade Level	Credits	Prerequisites
951	Art I	9-12	1	
945	Art I Honors	9-12	1	
955	Art II Honors	10-12	1	Art I
956	Drawing A	10-12	½	Art I
957	Drawing B	10-12	½	Art I
953	Painting A	10-12	½	Art I
954	Painting B	10-12	½	Art I
943	<i>Printmaking (not offered 2019-20)</i>	10-12	1	Art I
944	<i>Book Arts A (not offered 2019-20)</i>	9-12	½	
946	<i>Book Arts B (not offered 2019-20)</i>	9-12	½	
935	AP Drawing	11-12	1	2-3 art credits and permission
937	AP 2-D Art and Design	11-12	1	2-3 art credits and permission
950	Photography I	10-12	½	
9501	Photography II	10-12	½	Photography I
960	Adobe Photoshop	10-12	½	
65	2D Computer Illustration & Animation	10-12	½	Art I or teacher permission
66	3D Computer Modeling	10-12	½	2D Computer Illustration
9400	Earthworks A	9-12	½	
9420	Earthworks B	9-12	½	
842	Architectural Design	11-12	½	Drafting or Art I
852	Design and Engineering Technology	9-12	½	Introduction to Technology
958	Band	9-12	1	
961	Music Theory	9-12	½	
964	Jazz Combo Honors	9-12	1	by audition
9620	Steel Band I	9-12	½	
9630	Steel Band II	9-12	½	
9650	Steel Band III	9-12	½	
9651	Steel Band IV	9-12	½	
980	Dance I	9-12	½	Physical Education
982	Dance II	10-12	½	
983	Dance III	10-12	½	

Course #	Course Title	Grade Level	Credits	Prerequisites
984	Dance IV	10-12	½	
1183	Culinary Arts	11-12	½	

951 ART I, 9-12 (1 credit)

This is the first in a series of courses in art education. Students are introduced to the elements of design (line, shape, form, space, texture, value, and color) and the principles of organization (balance, repetition, harmony, emphasis, sequence, and perspective) with the intent of building skills and increasing artistic appreciation. In-class projects emphasize techniques and provide students with varied tasks for solving problems, while introducing them to a variety of media. Students are required to keep a sketchbook for weekly assignments. Major assignments are followed by class critiques, enabling students to participate in the assessment of their own work as well as that of others. Projects may vary from year to year. Midterm and final exams are given.

945 ART I HONORS, 9-12 (1 credit)

This course is for students who have a strong interest in the arts and who plan to take an AP studio course during their junior/senior year in high school, as well as for any student who plans to study art in college and will need to create a comprehensive portfolio. It will be followed by Art II Honors. Art I Honors will introduce students to the elements of design and the principles of organization through a series of in-class projects with the intent of building skills and increasing artistic appreciation. In-class projects emphasize techniques and provide students with varied tasks for solving visual problems while introducing them to a variety of media. Topics in art history and works of specific artists are examined. Major assignments have specific deadlines and may be followed by class critiques and exams. Students are required to keep a sketchbook for weekly assignments. Midterm and final exams are given.

955 ART II HONORS, 10-12 (1 credit)

Prerequisites: Art I or Art I Honors

Students in Art II Honors work both two- and three-dimensionally, preparing for a comprehensive AP studio art curriculum either their junior or senior year. Working at a more intensified pace to specific deadlines and written assignment requirements, students are expected to take the design elements to the next level. Some of the assignments include a large still life in oils, cut paper self-portraits, and intricate wire and paper sculptures, among others. Required weekly sketchbook assignments will be in mixed media scrapbooks, with the assignment sheets to be given at the beginning of the quarter so that students can plan ahead. The course has both a midterm and a final exam. This course is for students who are serious about their commitment to the arts.

956 DRAWING A, 10-12 (½ credit)

957 DRAWING B, 10-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: Art I or Art I Honors

In Drawing A, students will explore techniques using various types of media (graphite, charcoal, ink, etc.) and expand their experience in different types of mark making, value, and color. Drawing B will build upon learned mark-making skills as students explore figurative work. In both semesters, students will develop complex compositions, where they establish dimension as well as depict detail. Assignments will be given to develop specific skills, while at the same time allowing for individual expression. Sketchbook assignments will be given in conjunction with in-class assignments. It is highly recommended that prospective students have a clear interest in drawing. Students do not need to take Drawing A in order to take Drawing B.

953 PAINTING A, 10-12, (½ credit)

Prerequisites: Art I or Art I Honors

Painting A focuses on learning various painting techniques using watercolor, gouache, and ink. Students learn basic painting techniques, including different brushes and how to create realistic and abstract imagery from observation and imagination. Students learn about various artists across cultures and time periods to complete a variety of in-class projects. There is a final exam in the form of a final project.

954 PAINTING B, 10-12, (½ credit)

Prerequisites: Art I or Art I Honors

Painting B focuses on various painting techniques using acrylics, oils, and mixed media. Students begin with a brief review of color theory and fundamental color exercises. Basic painting techniques and brush overview are taught for students to create technically accurate paintings based on realistic and abstract imagery. An examination of contemporary and historical paintings aids students in developing their own artistic voice and style. Students are required to keep a sketchbook for weekly assignments. There is a final exam in the form of a final project.

943 PRINTMAKING, 10-12 (1 credit) – Not offered in 2019-2020

Prerequisites: Art I or Art I Honors

Printmaking provides students with the opportunity to sample different techniques of printing, such as monotype, intaglio, relief, lithography, and screen printing. For some techniques, students are expected to create suites or editions, while for others, there is more emphasis on spontaneous experimentation. Different projects require students to work in black/brown inks and in full color. Students should have a strong interest in drawing and be prepared to work on a project for several weeks. Students are expected to keep a small binder containing all in-class handouts, readings, and preliminary sketches of their work. A midterm project and final exam will be given.

944 BOOK ARTS A, 10-12, (½ credit) – Not offered 2019-2020

946 BOOK ARTS B, 10-12, (½ credit) – Not offered 2019-2020

Prerequisites: Art I or Art I Honors

Book Arts or “Artist’s Books” is an emerging field in which the book has been freed from its more traditional role as a container of information and instead becomes the art form. Whether the book also contains information is no longer more important than the book’s structure and the sequencing of how the information is presented. In this class, students will learn a variety of book structures, such as the accordion, tunnel, and lotus books (to name a few) and explore how these structures allow a more “visual” experience. Students will also have the opportunity to incorporate their writing; however, the way the writing is presented will vary. Some of the projects will be directed towards understanding the role of technology in book arts and will incorporate the use of scanners, typography, computers, and digital images. Students will also explore types of papers, inks, simple printmaking techniques, and paste made papers. Book Arts B will introduce sewn bindings.

935 AP DRAWING, 11-12 (1 credit)

Prerequisites: 2-3 art credits and teacher permission

AP Drawing is a college-level studio art course intended for highly self-motivated individuals to create a comprehensive portfolio containing elements from the disciplines of drawing, painting, and printmaking. The centerpiece of this course is the portfolio that consists of two sections: the Sustained Investigation and Selected Works. The Sustained Investigation requires students to submit 15 digital images and writing that documents their inquiry-guided investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision. The Selected Works section consists of five completed art pieces that demonstrate skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas. Students will complete summer homework to prepare the portfolio for the fall semester. The course relies heavily on in-class written and art assignments, group critiques, and student-teacher conferences, as well as homework in the form of a visual journal. All students enrolled in the class will be expected to take the exam as part of the course curriculum.

937 AP 2-D ART AND DESIGN, 11–12 (1 credit)

Prerequisites: 2-3 art credits and teacher permission

AP 2-D Art and Design is college-level studio art course intended for highly self-motivated individuals to create a comprehensive portfolio that addresses the elements and principles of design. Students may work in a variety of media including, but not limited to, the following: drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, mixed media, digital media, graphic design, photography, collage, fashion design, etc. The centerpiece of this course is the development of a portfolio that consists of two sections: the Sustained Investigation and Selected Works. The Sustained Investigation requires students to submit 15 digital images and writing that documents their inquiry-guided investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision. The Selected Works section consists of 5 completed art pieces that demonstrate skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas. Students will complete summer homework to prepare the portfolio for the fall semester. The course relies heavily on in-class written and art assignments, group critiques, and student-teacher conferences, as well as homework in the form of a visual journal. All students enrolled in the class will be expected to take the exam as part of the course curriculum.

950 PHOTOGRAPHY I, 10-12 (½ credit)

9501 PHOTOGRAPHY II, 10-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: Photography I

Photography I and II are a general introduction to digital photography. Familiarity with the digital camera and its functions, lighting, and an understanding of what makes a good photograph will be emphasized. Students learn to critique photographs of others as well as their own. Students must have access to a reliable digital camera. Students without their own cameras will be loaned one by the school.

960 ADOBE PHOTOSHOP, 10-12 (½ credit)

Students explore digital photographic workflow with an emphasis placed on using post-capture, photo manipulation software, mainly Adobe Photoshop, to perfect their photographic statements. Students who have had Photography will refine their best images to create portfolio prints. Critique of their own work and the works of others will be a focus. Students must have access to a reliable digital camera to complete assignments. Students without their own cameras will be loaned one by the school.

65 2D COMPUTER ILLUSTRATION AND ANIMATION, 10-12 (½ credit)

This introductory course allows students to translate analog art skills into digital media by using digital tools to produce, manipulate, and animate original 2D artwork. The course utilizes vector graphics software for creating a wide variety of 2D graphics, such as illustrations, cartoons, icons, logos, diagrams, maps, posters and web graphics. Students learn proportion, perspective, lighting, storytelling, expression, and how basic shapes, symbols, gradients, fill colors, symbols, Bezier curves, and text can be combined to create artwork.

66 3D COMPUTER MODELING, 10-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: 2D Computer Illustration and Animation

This introductory course allows students to create illustrations that can then be modeled or animated in 3D. This course utilizes animation software that allows students to visualize, plan, and model in three-dimensional space, as well as explore its animation capabilities. Students create, animate, texture, and light 3D objects and scenes.

9400 EARTHWORKS A 9-12, (½ credit)

9420 EARTHWORKS B, 9-12, (½ credit)

Earthworks courses use natural materials to design artistic and functional pieces. Earthworks A concentrates on jewelry and making pieces out of wood and other natural materials. Earthworks B focuses on blacksmithing and pottery. Earthworks A is not a prerequisite for taking Earthworks B. Each course meets one-half of the visual and performing arts requirement.

842 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN, 11-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: Drafting or Art 1

This course will give students a basic understanding of good house design. Each student will develop a full set of house plans and will build a scale model from their plans. This course meets one-half of the visual and performing arts requirement.

852 DESIGN & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY, 9-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: Introduction to Technology

This course meets one-half of the visual and performing arts requirement and will introduce students to the principles of design used in construction, manufacturing and communication areas of technology. Students will use problem-solving techniques that will help them understand how to sketch, draw, form, and shape materials. The student will learn how to use cutting, welding, and forming machines and tools to design model cars, boats, rockets, sleds, and other similar products.

958 BAND, 9-12 (1 credit)

The George Stevens Academy Band performs at a variety of events during the school year. Activities include concerts in the fall, winter, and spring, as well as performances at the elementary schools, parades, basketball games, district and state music festivals, various school activities, and community events. Music selections vary from rock to classical, and rehearsals provide challenges and enjoyment in the making of music. Other music ensembles, to which inclusion into the Band may lead, are the Jazz Band (selected through yearly spring auditions, which are also open to incoming freshmen), jazz combos, and the Honors Combo (both of which require annual auditions), and the Holiday Angels (a group of student musicians who perform seasonal music in December).

961 MUSIC THEORY, 9-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: None

Students learn the fundamental aspects of music theory while learning to play a synthesizer keyboard (keyboards will be provided). The study of chords is also emphasized. A survey of popular, jazz, and classical music deals with the history and form of music.

964 JAZZ COMBO HONORS, 9-12 (1 credit)

Prerequisites: By audition (spring prior to the school year)

Honors Jazz Combo focuses on the study and performance of jazz in its various styles, such as swing, Latin, African, funk, Calypso, jazz-rock, and the ballad. Past Jazz Honors Combos have achieved many awards, winning first, second, or third placement at the Maine State Jazz Festival year after year. The Honors Combo is also asked to perform at many school, community, and prestigious state events. Being a member of the Honors Combo requires a high level of commitment from its members. Many of the former members have majored in music and become successful musicians. Each member of the combo plays in the Jazz Band.

9620 STEEL BAND I, 9-12 (½ credit)

9630 STEEL BAND II, 9-12 (½ credit)

9650 STEEL BAND III, 9-12 (½ credit)

9651 STEEL BAND IV, 9-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: students must pass the preceding level, or teacher's permission

Island music and the steel drum are a vital part of the history and culture of the Caribbean and are important newcomers on the world music scene. Students will learn to play “pan”—the steel drum family of instruments—and perform as an ensemble. While prior musical experience is certainly an asset, it is not a prerequisite; the instruments are relatively easy to learn to play. The primary objective of the course is to make music, with instruction in basic music notation, rhythm, harmony, and four-part arranging, and discussion of the construction and cultural background of pans. Each course meets one-half of the visual and performing arts requirement.

980 DANCE I, 9-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: 1 semester of Physical Education

982 DANCE II, 10-12 (½ credit)

983 DANCE III, 10-12 (½ credit)

984 DANCE IV, 10-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: students must pass the preceding level, or teacher's permission

Students in this course will develop their kinesthetic awareness and physical coordination through their practice of dance techniques. They will learn and create dance phrases, experimenting with the elements of dance for artistic expression and creating their own dance compositions, which they will present to their classmates. They are introduced to some reasons why cultures and people create dance, look at historical, cultural, and aesthetic forces that have fused dance traditions from different parts of the world, and consider the influences of historical dance forms on contemporary styles. Students are exposed to a variety of dance styles. Higher-level classes emphasize more advanced dance techniques and continuing development of dance terms and their associated movements and practices. Basic choreographic concepts are further developed into an expressive work. Students have the opportunity to develop further compositional skills and creativity as they create their own choreographic piece to possibly be performed in the GSA Arts Festival Dance Concert. Students critically assess and derive meaning from works of dance, performance of dancers, and original works based on the elements of dance and aesthetic qualities. As dance students, they develop competencies and creative skills in problem-solving, communication, and time management that are interpersonal and intrapersonal.

1183 CULINARY ARTS, 11-12 (½ credit)

Prerequisites: Students must be 16 years old

Culinary Arts is a semester-long, hands-on course introducing students to the basics of kitchen work and culinary technique using a variety of teaching methods and experiences. Students learn the art of food preparation, presentation, and service. Lessons include knife skills, menu planning, basic purchasing, nutrition, careers in food service, and other topics pertaining to the hospitality industry.