

Art Course Descriptions

Exploratory Art, Grade 6

This is a survey class that covers three fundamental areas of the visual arts: drawing, painting, and ceramics. The lessons include vocabulary, observation, experimentation, and activity that is intended to expand students' appreciation of and skill at art concepts and processes, respectively. Students are challenged to think critically and creatively as they problem solve working with various tools and materials.

Drawing & Printmaking, Grade 7

This course focuses on developing students' critical thinking skills as they explore the role and characteristics of drawing and graphics in society. Students explore a variety of related mediums, such as graphite, charcoal, ink &/or linoleum through planned skill-builder exercises and creative studio projects. The goal is to improve and strengthen students' technical skill, self-confidence and basic knowledge of art.

Digital Photography, Grade 7

In this class students focus on how to communicate effectively through the most direct and widely used means today, photography. They will learn the fundamentals of using digital cameras (including cell phones), exploring techniques and artistic considerations for capturing images and, the basic parameters for producing and presenting quality out-put. The goal is to develop students' technical skills and effectiveness with this increasingly important medium in society today.

Ceramics & Sculpture, Grades 7 and 8

In this class students explore the elements and principles of design as they relate to three-dimensional art. Students work with clay, paper maché, wood, plaster &/or wire to plan and create imaginary, abstract &/or representational forms. Construction methods, techniques and procedures are presented to enable students to develop independence with their work as they explore unfamiliar concepts.

Painting & Composition, Grade 8

In this class students explore the elements and principles of design as they relate to two-dimensional art. Painting and drawing methods, techniques and procedures are presented with various mediums, such as watercolor, acrylic, tempera, pastels, ink &/or pencil. Students learn to plan and create abstract &/or representational images that exhibit evidence of thought, understanding of concepts and skill with the materials.

Graphic Design, Grade 8

This higher level art course challenges students to create a portfolio of unique and effective designs that communicate through the informed use of typography and image. Students not only learn the vocabulary and skills that are critical to a designer's output; they also strive to develop an understanding of the ideas and meanings behind each work.

Art 2D/3D, Grade 8

This course incorporates the fundamentals of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art into one class. Basic techniques with tools, materials and concepts are reviewed to prepare the students for working together to plan and execute a class project. Construction methods, material techniques and work procedures are presented to enable students to work with some independence. They are challenged to contribute their own unique piece to the success of the larger goal.