

ARTS (DANCE)

Dance for Athletes

This course is for athletes who want to enhance and refine their athletic performance through techniques and training in dance. No dance experience is required. Agility, flexibility, footwork, balance and endurance are all specifically addressed in this beginner course. A student taking this will improve upon his or her ability to perform on the athletic field. Students will be expected to wear loose fitting athletic wear. This course does not require a public performance. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval. If arts credits are fulfilled, this course may count as an athletic credit.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Foundations of Dance

In Foundations of Dance, students will become acquainted with basic techniques in ballet, modern, and jazz, as well as dance history. Gaining movement skills and finding confidence and enjoyment through movement are a focus of this class. There will be at least one required performance during the trimester course. If arts credits are fulfilled, this course may count as an athletic credit.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Dance I: Technique and Improvisation

Dance I is designed to introduce and further the understanding, knowledge, and terminology of the various dance techniques at a beginning/intermediate level. Students will begin and continue to develop strength, control, and flexibility with an emphasis on movement efficiency and proper body alignment. Students will begin to increase a mastery of ballet, modern and jazz movement vocabulary at the barre, in axial movements, and in adagio movements. Students will also begin to focus on improvisation techniques along with performance quality with an emphasis on musicality. This class will have a required performance opportunity each trimester. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval. If arts credits are fulfilled, this course may count as an athletic credit.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Foundations of Dance

Dance II: Composition and Performance

Dance II is designed to build on the skills of Dance I. Students will further their understanding, knowledge, and terminology of the various dance techniques at an intermediate/advanced level. Students will further develop strength, control, and flexibility with an emphasis on movement efficiency and proper body alignment. If arts credits are fulfilled, this course may count as an athletic credit. Students will continue to increase their mastery of ballet, modern and jazz movement vocabulary at the barre, in axial movements, in adagio, and in petit and grand allegro combinations. Students will also work on composition, increased movement propensity, performance clarity with an emphasis on musicality.

This class will have a required performance opportunity each trimester. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval. If arts credits are fulfilled, this course may count as an athletic credit.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Dance I: Technique and Improvisation

Dance III: Dance Company

Parish Dance Company is a repertoire-oriented performance ensemble. Members focus on perfecting more difficult movement combinations in each discipline of dance. Mastery of performance is emphasized at this level. Parish Dance Company is designed for students who are serious about dance and are willing to work and perform for any outside performances and/or special events. This class is also designed to nurture the student's talent and provide a new venue for performance. The students will continue to work on all various techniques of dance. Composition classes, dance improvisation classes, and methods of teaching will aid them as they begin the process of creating their own choreographic work that may be considered for a public dance performance. The student will gain experience in approaching rehearsal and performance in a professional manner, including: learning and retaining various choreographic material, learning and practicing proper rehearsal demeanor and effort, learning and becoming proficient in performance skills, and following appropriate performance etiquette. If arts credits are fulfilled, this course may count as an athletic credit.

Classification: Elective

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Auditions in the Spring

Rosettes (Drill Team)

Rosettes is an audition based Drill Team for students of the Upper School. Students will train and prepare for performances such as football games, basketball games, pep rallies, competitions, and headline their annual "Rosettes Review" show. In addition, students have the opportunity to travel and perform at both local and non-local events. The objective and purpose of Drill Team is to create school spirit, pride and loyalty through various performances and also to develop responsibility, teach self-respect and encourage honest effort while developing character by striving for excellence. Rosettes enhance physical fitness development and fosters teamwork through quality performance.

Classification: Elective

Credit: 1 credit of Fine Arts or Athletics

Prerequisite: Auditions in the Spring

ARTS (MUSIC)

Guitar

Guitar is the group study and application of music to fretted instruments, especially the classical, acoustic and electric guitars. Students will learn to read tablature, will study scales, chords and chord progressions, chromatics, rhythm concepts (tempo, steady beat), and articulation. Students will play both in ensemble and solo projects of their choosing. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Music Technology

Music Technology is the study and application of digital tools found in music production and recording. Through project-based learning and consideration for student voice and choice, students will learn to analyze music performances (Essential Standards, et al.), record voices and instruments, and edit and mix the sound to the benefit of both the performer and listener. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Music Theory

Music Theory is the study and application of music notation, scales and modes, chords and chord progressions, chromatics and non-chord tones, modulation, rhythm and pitch duration (tempo, steady beat), dynamics, articulation, and classical form. Concomitant to the above will be exposure to the keyboard to give all concepts a practical application.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Piano

The piano course incorporates basic music theory as applicable to performance of piano literature, classical and popular. Each student sets appropriate short-term and end-of-trimester goals with the instructor including an in-class performance. Student input into music selected for study is an integral part of this course. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Vocal Music: Technique and Performance

This course is an elective open to any student who wants to read, learn, and perform solo and group repertoire to improve personal vocal technique. Student input into music selected for rehearsal and performance is an integral component of this course. No audition is required, and there is no prerequisite. Expectations include active participation in rehearsals and attendance at all performances. This course may be taken multiple times.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

AP Music Theory

AP Music Theory is a full-year course that prepares students to perform successfully on the Advanced Placement Music Theory Examination. AP Music Theory is not a music appreciation course. The goal of the course is to provide students skills for fluent sight-reading, composition and analysis of harmony and rhythm. The course begins with an introduction to the basic elements of music, and proceeds through the rules of composition in the Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras. This course is offered in alternating years.

Classification: Core

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Music Theory and/or teacher approval

Drumline

The Parish Drumline is an auditioned ensemble for members of the Middle and Upper School that meets after school. Members will learn the foundations of modern marching arts, musicianship, and rehearsal techniques. As a performing ensemble, the group will perform at a variety of venues and events throughout the school year, including athletic events and the Spring Showcase. Prior musical experience is not required but is heavily encouraged, and students are expected to give ample time for rehearsal, performance, and individual practice.

Classification: Elective

Credit: 1 of Fine Arts or Athletics

Prerequisite: Auditions in the Spring

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is offered during the zero-hour time slot (from 7:00 a.m.-7:45 a.m.). Emphasis is placed on performance to continue developing basic musicianship skills such as tone quality, rhythmic accuracy, sight reading, and playing in an ensemble. Additionally, the ensemble performs a variety of genres which includes rock, funk, Latin, big band, and blues. Students also learn the basics of jazz improvisation and how to read chord changes.

Classification: Elective

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Auditions in the Spring

Performance Music Ensemble (Essential Standards)

Performance Music Ensemble, known as Essential Standards, is a trimester course open to students who wants to read, learn, and perform popular music in an ensemble. This graded course meets during the zero-hour time slot (7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.). Student input into music selected for performance is an integral component for this ensemble. Expectations include active participation in rehearsals and attendance at all performances.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Auditions in the Spring

ARTS (SPEECH)

Public Speaking

Public Speaking is a trimester-long course designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of speech communication in both formal and informal settings. While speech theory is introduced to students throughout the trimester via direct instruction, the student's ability to speak well is primarily cultivated and reinforced through practice, class evaluation, and personal reflection. By the end of the trimester, students present at least seven speeches which increase in complexity. These include personal narrative speeches, a commemorative speech, a story, informative speeches, and impromptu speeches.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

ARTS (THEATRE)

Foundations of Theatre

Foundations of Theatre introduces students to the origins and history of drama and is designed to explore theatre's creative process from inception to performance. This class includes a variety of theatrical experiences including various methodologies and styles of performance. Additionally students are required to go see live theatre and share their experiences. Students will perform in class and work on self-confidence, self-awareness, relaxation, and focusing techniques.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Acting I: Technique and Scene Study

In this course, students will explore acting as an art form and will be introduced to the different philosophies of acting. Through exercises, scene study, improv and performing they will learn tools which will allow them to find their own voice as an actor. The actors will study a work chosen by the class and the course will culminate in production of one or more of the One Act festival plays. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Foundations of Theatre or teacher approval

Acting II: Monologues, Movement and Voice

This is an advanced course in acting. Students will engage in psychological character and monologue work and research material to broaden their scope of knowledge. They will learn monologues from different genres and styles culminating in public performance. They will gain command of classical and contemporary monologues toward the goal of presenting them for collegiate auditions. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .67

Prerequisite: Acting I: Technique and Scene Study

Technical Theatre I: Practical Construction

Students in Technical theatre will learn how to use power tools and take a scenic design from the page and turn it into a fully realized set which will be used for one of our Parish productions. They will learn about lighting and sound and the operation of the boards. They may have an opportunity to be part of the actual set design of one of our productions, and can participate in the running crew on the shows being mounted at Parish. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Technical Theatre II: Design and Implementation

In this course, students will create a design for one of the Parish productions. They will review the elements of technical theatre and the use of power tools, and augment the Tech Theatre I class as needed. They will take part in the design of one of the productions in the area of lighting, sound or scenic design and create a scale model of their design and technical drawings. The designs from this class will be submitted to the Schmidt and Jones awards. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Technical Theatre I: Practical Construction

Musical Theatre Production

The musical theatre class is a deep dive into the world of musical theatre. This course places a strong focus on skills, especially on musical theatre auditioning, as well as creating a public performance. Placement in this class is by audition only and participation in the performance is mandatory.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Auditions in the Spring

ARTS (VISUAL ART)

Ceramics I: Methods and Materials

In Ceramics I, students learn a concrete way to develop their creativity as they choose functional vessels, decorative pieces, and sculptural work. Course work includes an online portfolio, project ideation (drawing and planning), project assembly, glazing, vocabulary quizzes, self-evaluations, and group critiques. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Ceramics II: Handbuilding and Wheel

In Ceramics II, students will continue higher levels of handbuilding techniques or try different technique paths. The student will continue to develop their creative process and find more complete and sophisticated ways to approach their work. Course work includes adding to their online portfolio, project ideation (drawing and planning), project assembly, glazing, vocabulary quizzes, self-evaluations, and group critiques. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Ceramics I: Materials and Methods

Drawing and Painting I: Methods and Materials

This course focuses on the elements and principles of design through drawing and painting. Its purpose is to help students develop the technical and perceptual skills they need in order to explore individual ideas and meaningful personal expression, as well as prepare them for advanced classes in drawing and painting. Drawing assignments are fundamental and are aimed at teaching students to process visual information as an artist does, through exercises in sighting, perspective, and modeling form. Creative problem solving is at the heart of all studio work. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Drawing and Painting II: Visual Concepts

In this course, students are presented more advanced problems in drawing with emphasis placed on drawing from life and composition. Students use gesture and contour lines in quick and sustained studies and work with a variety of media. Building upon the foundation of design principles introduced in Drawing and Painting I, they continue to explore visual concepts and solve design problems. In-process critiques, art history and art appreciation help students learn to evaluate their own work and that of others. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting I: Methods and Materials

Foundations of Film

Foundations of Film explores the history of filmmaking from its origins to today's modern special effect films. Students will learn about making motion pictures from the ground up and will have hands-on opportunities to create shots and special effects.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Filmmaking I: Script to Screen

In this course students will create a short film of their own. They will study screenwriting and storyboarding and develop a script which they will then film and edit for presentation at venues such as the ISAS Fine Arts Festival and the Dallas Film Festival. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .67

Prerequisite: Foundations of Film

Filmmaking II: Advanced Production

In this course, students will refine their creative voice and learn who they are as filmmakers. They will create several short films for review and evaluation focusing on different aspects of filmmaking. They will choose one or more of these films to submit to festivals, including presentation at the ISAS Arts showcase, and submission to the Dallas International Film Festival, South by Southwest, and other festivals where available. This course may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .67

Prerequisites: Foundations Film and Filmmaking I: Script to Screen

Graphic Design (Parish Virtual Exclusive)

This course explores the use of the design process, visual communication, and collaboration. Students learn the fundamentals of visual communication, problem solving through the design process, and collaborate with clients and classmates to tackle real-world design challenges. This course is a Parish Virtual exclusive offering.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Photography I: Traditional Darkroom

Photography I is an introductory course where students develop a basic knowledge of photographic design, composition, critique and display. Students use manual cameras and develop photographs by processing 35mm film in the darkroom. Students will learn functions of the camera and generate strong black and white images that portray growth through technical skill and student voice and choice. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Photography II: Digital Photography

A sequence course to Photography I, students continue to develop their knowledge of photographic design, composition, critique and display in Photography II. Students work within Adobe Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop to edit and generate digital images. Students will transfer their knowledge from film to the digital realm, expanding their camera and technical understanding. Students will also participate in reflective personal and peer critiques, and develop an ongoing online portfolio. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Photography I: Traditional Darkroom

Photography III: Studio and Field

Photography III, an intermediate photography course, is designed to bridge the gap between introductory film and digital and the AP levels. This course is designed to support an advanced knowledge of photography in both the darkroom and digital techniques. Topics of assignments may vary but will be designed according to the ability of the students enrolled and dependent primarily on student voice and choice with input from instructor's selections. Students will regularly participate in gallery shows, peer critiques, self-reflection, and research. Access to a DSLR camera and a 35mm film camera is highly recommended for this course. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .67

Prerequisite: Photography I and Photography II or permission of instructor

Photojournalism (Parish Virtual Exclusive)

Students will advance their knowledge of visual communication with the use of photography using single images or photo essays. Students will focus on documentary photography, social justice photography, and street photography. Emphasis will be placed on how the images communicate a cohesive story to the viewer and what the student photographer wishes to convey. Stories and individual images will be critiqued through online discussion, forums and written rubrics. Access to a DSLR camera is required for this course. This course is a Parish Virtual exclusive offering.

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Portraiture (Parish Virtual Exclusive)

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of portraits and their historical significance for the purpose of successful re-creation. Students will learn composition, posing, story development, and lighting techniques. Students will study elements of portraiture including pose, gesture, composition, and photo editing. Students will become familiar with studio equipment and lighting set-up, as well as the development of creative backgrounds. Access to a DSLR camera is highly recommended and a cell phone camera is required. This course is a Parish Virtual exclusive offering.

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Printmaking I: Methods and Materials

In this studio course, students are introduced to several traditional and alternative printmaking techniques including relief, silk screen, intaglio, and monotypes focusing on the elements and principles of design. Students work toward the expression of individual ideas and personal style in their own original prints as they develop technical and perceptual skills. Printmaking assignments are fundamental and are aimed at teaching students to process visual information as an artist does through creative problem solving. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Printmaking II: Visual Concepts

In this studio course, students study advanced printmaking techniques including relief, intaglio, silk screen, and monotypes. Students work toward the expression of individual ideas and personal style in their own original prints as they explore the work of some major artists. Building upon the foundation of design principles introduced in Printmaking I, they continue to explore visual concepts and solve design problems. In-process critiques, art history and art appreciation help students learn to evaluate their own work and that of others. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: Printmaking I: Methods and Materials

Yearbook

Yearbook is a photojournalism course in which each student plays a vital role in the design, structure, development, and publication of the school's yearbook. Students learn to use graphic design software, to research and interview, to write captions, copy and headlines in journalistic style, and to take and edit photographs. While producing the yearbook, students develop or improve skills—communication, leadership, problem-solving, planning, organizing, meeting deadlines, and working well independently and with a team—that will benefit them throughout their life. Work outside class and beyond the school day is required. Leadership opportunities are available through an editor role. Students may apply for an editor position beginning sophomore year. This course may be taken multiple times.

Classification: Elective

Credit: .33

Prerequisite: None

Advanced 2-D Art and Design: Drawing
Advanced 2-D Art and Design: Photo
Advanced 3-D Art and Design

In this advanced visual art course projects are more open-ended and conceptual providing students an opportunity to focus on creating their own artistic voice and a cohesive body of work. Coursework extends across a full calendar year starting with summer projects. An essential element of the course is creating gallery-ready work and the experience of installing these pieces in shows starting with the Summer Works exhibition in early Fall and in Selected Works exhibits each trimester. Also emphasized is the cultivation of the studio community through formal and informal critiques. This course is time intensive and requires personal initiative, time management, and commitment to developing and stretching skills, knowledge and understanding. Students should have taken at least three other visual arts courses to accumulate the skills and understanding needed to be successful in the course. Students who plan to take AP Art and Design are required to take Advanced Art and Design during the previous year. This class may be taken multiple times with instructor approval.

Classification: Core

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: At least three trimesters of visual art and art faculty approval. In exceptional cases, students may be admitted through interview and portfolio examination.

AP 2-D Art and Design: Drawing
AP 2-D Art and Design: Photo
AP 3-D Art and Design

AP Art and Design is a continuation of the Advanced Art and Design course where students will hone their skills, artistic voice, and conceptual process. Students will complete their portfolio which includes 15 pieces of art and process documentation that demonstrate sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision. An essential element of the course is creating gallery-ready work and the experience of installing these pieces in shows starting with the Summer Works exhibition in early Fall and in Selected Works exhibits each trimester. Additionally, each student's entire portfolio will be showcased in the student-run AP Show. Also emphasized is the cultivation of the studio community through formal and informal critiques. This course is time intensive and requires personal initiative, time management and commitment to developing and stretching skills, knowledge and understanding.

Classification: Core

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: At least three trimesters of visual art, Advanced Art and Design and visual art faculty approval. In exceptional cases, students may be admitted through interview and portfolio examination.