

PHILOSOPHY OF THE ART DEPARTMENT

The Lemont High School Art Department believes students should develop the following characteristics:

- Competence in the use of various tools and art media
- Appreciation of aesthetic values in productive, critical/evaluative, and historical areas of art
- Understanding of the basic elements of design and art principles
- Understanding of individuality, creativity and capabilities of self

Courses offered within the Art curriculum provide varied experiences in art media, which inspires the development of creativity and challenges students to solve problems and express themselves visually through various media.

Based on their abilities and course level, students shall:

- Demonstrate technical skills to execute drawing, printmaking, ceramics, painting, photography, sculpture, and computer graphics
- Critique works of art by using a frame of reference based upon knowledge of the influence of artists and their work throughout history
- Utilize the basic elements of design and art principles in mastery to complete original compositions
- Utilize past and present art experiences to create new and exciting studio projects and to create original works from written and verbal cues
- Analyze, select and critique personal artwork for a collection or portfolio presentation
- Evaluate, justify and present choices in the process of analyzing, selecting, curating, and presenting artwork for a specific exhibit

Grading Standards: Student grades may be determined by the following categories, depending on the individual course: daily work, journal/sketches, projects, quizzes, and the final portfolio. Grades for projects and sketchbooks are subjective, based on how well the student completes the assignment, creative individuality, and craftsmanship. Grades for quizzes and exams reflect the student's knowledge of historical facts and technical terms.

CORE COURSES - ART

Introduction to Digital Art

Grades Course Open To: 9-10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course teaches students how to use the computer as an artistic tool. Students are introduced to Adobe Creative Cloud, which includes Photoshop and Illustrator. In Illustrator, students develop new skills that are useful in a demanding digital market. Through different assignments, students expand on concepts, techniques and an appreciation for the digital arts. Students also learn to manipulate photographs and create original works of art using Photoshop. Students are required to have access to a digital camera (which can include a cell phone camera) for assignments.

Fine Arts - Art

Introduction to Drawing & Painting

Grades Course Open To: 9-10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course provides students with a foundation in drawing and painting techniques. Students learn the elements and principles of art and how to incorporate them in their own creations, and develop drawing and painting techniques essential for understanding space, depth and form. Students are trained to become observers both of light and space, and how to apply what they see visually into a drawing or painting. Students are expected to develop their drawing and painting skills through accurate observation, and practice drawing techniques with various media.

Introduction to Studio Art

Grades Course Open To: 9-10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course is designed to give the beginning art student a basic foundation in art elements, principles and media. Students are introduced to art techniques and media through sketching, drawing, printmaking and painting assignments. The course expands students' art experience through studio art while recognizing the value of art history. Students are expected to look at and discuss both historical and contemporary works of art. Effort and participation are emphasized to foster a positive life-long appreciation for the visual arts.

ELECTIVE COURSES - ART

Advanced Woods

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Woods Technology I or Fine Arts Woodworking, or consent of Division Chair

Fees: Course fee applies (paid at fall registration)

Description: This course begins with a study of the principles and elements of good design for residential construction, trimming and permanent casements. A major emphasis is placed on planning and cost estimation, reading plans, construction and finishing, and efficient time management. The sequence of stages and components for residential construction are also addressed. Some projects may include scale house structures and custom cabinets. Students develop employability and transition skills and vocational ethics as well.

AP Studio Art

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 1.0 - weighted for AP

Prerequisite: Successful completion of three art classes and a portfolio review by three art teachers

Description: This course is geared toward students who are interested in pursuing art at the college level. Students develop college-ready portfolios, which includes writing a college letter of intent, developing an artist's statement, and learning how to critique their own work and that of others. Students put together their own show at GALLERY 306 and benefit from visiting college professors while learning about various programs offered at the college level. Students are expected to work at least five hours per week outside of class while creating works that follow a series and are part of portfolios or exhibitions. **Note:** All students enrolled in this course **must** fulfill the AP Studio Art requirements, which includes submitting up to 15 pieces of artwork combined to the College Board and to a college art program of the student's choice.

Fine Arts - Art

Ceramics I

Grades Course Open To: 10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an introductory level art course

Description: This course is designed to explore the three construction methods of ceramics. An emphasis is placed on originality, design and craftsmanship. Students research the history of ceramics and gain a basic understanding of the process and terminology specific to ceramics. Students are taught to combine three-dimensional construction methods and decoration to create sculptural and functional pieces.

Ceramics II

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Ceramics I

Description: This course is designed to enhance students' handbuilding skills and foster their creativity in the medium. Students are introduced to the process of throwing on the potter's wheel, and research, design and create artwork requires independent problem solving. Students drive their own progress by proposing designs based upon chosen concepts and themes. New decorative techniques are introduced to create both sculptural and functional pieces. This course may be taken up to two times, upon consent of the Division Chair.

Design 210

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Introduction to Digital Art

Description: This course provides students with real world graphic design experience as they collaborate in teams to conceive design work for their clients. Students keep clients' needs in mind while creating a variety of design products that incorporate typography and imagery. Group and class critiques incorporate design elements and principles, typography, imagery and illustration, as well as the overall aesthetic of the artwork based on the project's audience and purpose. Students discuss design aesthetics with clients in a professional setting, and apply the use of the Adobe Creative Suite to their product designs. Students utilize cameras, lighting equipment and drawing tables to aid in their creative process and develop portfolio-ready artwork for college applications and future job prospects.

Digital Photography

Grades Course Open To: 10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an introductory level art course

Description: In this course, students emphasize both the creative and technical processes of digital photography using their own digital cameras. Students edit, refine, retouch and manipulate their photographs using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Bridge. Students are required to have access to a digital camera for assignments.

Drawing & Painting II

Grades Course Open To: 10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an introductory level art course

Description: This course builds on the techniques learned in Introduction to Drawing & Painting by allowing students to use their knowledge of the elements and principles of art while being challenged with more complex drawing and painting assignments. Students develop more advanced technical and observational skills in a wider range of drawing and painting processes and media.

Fine Arts - Art

Drawing & Painting III

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Drawing & Painting II or Studio Art II, or consent of Division Chair

Description: This course provides advanced students with an opportunity to use knowledge and techniques gained in previous art courses while solving complex drawing and painting problems and developing their personal artistic style. Students plan, conceptualize and create projects using drawing and painting media. Students are encouraged to explore individual approaches to drawing and painting, and expand their technical skills and creativity.

Drawing & Painting IV

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Drawing & Painting III or concurrent enrollment in Drawing & Painting III with consent of Division Chair

Description: This course provides advanced art students with intense focus on experimentation, process, thematic focus, and numerous drawing and painting strategies through independent classroom projects. Students continue to explore the nature, scope and principles of drawing and painting. Students are encouraged to explore individual approaches to drawing and painting, expand their technical skills and creativity, consider and experiment with alternative drawing and painting methods, and use the process of drawing and painting as a vehicle of personal expression and creativity.

Fashion Design Illustration

Grades Course Open To: 9-10-11-12 **Credit:** 1.0

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course offers students who are interested in clothing and accessory design the opportunity to create digital and studio illustrations of garments and accessories. Students' knowledge of fashion design advances as they gain an understanding of how the elements and principles of design pertain to fashion. A focus is placed on both traditional and contemporary methods of fashion design. Students learn how to accurately render illustrations by hand and with digital illustration programs. The course also explores the history of costume and fashion design, drawing on historical movements in context for inspiration. Students ultimately design their own fashion collection, rendering it both digitally and through traditional art media, and create a portfolio of work.

Fine Arts Woodworking

Grades Course Open To: 10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5

Prerequisite: None

Fees: Course fee applies (paid at fall registration)

Description: This course begins a study of the properties and fabrication of wood products, as related to construction and wood work as designed art. Students learn how to use woodworking tools and machinery to create three-dimensional art pieces, both of the functional and sculpture variety. Students are introduced to a variety of artists who use wood to create their art. Students create concept drawings for their projects before laying out their designs and building their pieces. They also identify the different species of woods, and become familiar with varnish and paint application. Students learn how to use hand tools, table saws, miter saws, scroll saws, routers, joiners, sanders and bonding agents. Students are introduced to and apply proper vocabulary to discuss/critique each wooden art piece they create. Laboratory activities allow students to develop introductory skills for the construction industries. Safety awareness and practice are emphasized and are integral parts of each major unit of study. Students develop employability and transition skills and vocational ethics as well.

Fine Arts - Art

Graphic Design

Grades Course Open To: 10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an introductory level art course

Description: This course offers a foundation in the basic principles of design. Students use problem solving and creative thinking to create print-based media. Students study the communication of ideas and information through the integration of typography, symbols, illustration and imagery. Students utilize Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe InDesign to simulate a contemporary graphic design portfolio.

Portfolio Development

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 0.5

Prerequisite: Successful completion of three art classes and a portfolio review by three art teachers

Description: This course is geared toward students who are interested in pursuing art at the college level. Students develop college-ready portfolios, which includes writing a college letter of intent, developing an artist's statement, and learning how to critique their own work and that of others. Students put together their own show at GALLERY 306 as seniors and benefit from visiting college professors while learning about various programs offered at the college level. Students are expected to work at least three hours per week outside of class while creating works that follow a series and are part of portfolios or exhibitions.

Sculpture: 3D Media Exploration

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Introduction to Studio Art, Introduction to Drawing & Painting, or Ceramics I

Description: This course explores the use of found objects and presented materials to construct sculptures and installations. Students engage in aesthetic debates and critique based on works presented and created in class. Art elements and principles are reviewed and emphasized within student artwork. Students are required to work both independently and collaboratively on various projects. Throughout the year, students are required to bring in outside materials or found objects to complete assignments.

Studio Art II

Grades Course Open To: 10-11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an introductory level art course

Description: This course builds upon prior knowledge as students review basic skills and attain new techniques. More time is spent on innovation and creativity within a given area. Art history is incorporated with studio projects to enrich the program and develop constructive criticism. Students work with a variety of media, including drawing, painting, sculpture and printmaking.

Fine Arts - Art

Studio Art III

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio Art II or Drawing & Painting II, or consent of Division Chair

Description: This studio course is offered to advanced art students who wish to enrich their background in art. Areas of study may include advanced drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed media, and alternative media. Students explore current trends in contemporary art from Chicago and other major urban art scenes, and examine and discuss both historical and contemporary works of art. Students are challenged, both within and outside the classroom, to utilize past and present art experiences to create new and exciting studio projects from influences around them. For students interested in pursuing art in college, a portfolio of work may be developed. Each student's goal for this course will be to have his or her art displayed in a public setting.

Studio Art IV

Grades Course Open To: 11-12 **Credit:** 0.5 or 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio Art III or concurrent enrollment in Studio Art III with consent of Division Chair

Description: This studio course is offered to advanced art students who wish to pursue an intense study of advanced drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed media, and alternative media. Students explore current trends in contemporary art from Chicago and other major urban art scenes, and examine and discuss both historical and contemporary works of art. Students utilize past and present art experiences to influence them in creating studio projects. Students at this level are expected to challenge themselves to grow in their personal creativity, problem solving, and artistic expression through advanced use of media. Each student's goal for this course is to have his or her art displayed in a public setting. Those students who plan to pursue art in college may continue to develop their portfolio of artwork.