

HONORS IN VISUAL ARTS



Honors in Visual Arts is designed for those select students who desire a more comprehensive, more focused, and more sustained study of a specific visual arts discipline. Students will select either ceramics, photography, painting, or sculpture as their specialization. Students admitted to the honors seminar, therefore, apply the techniques, methods, and concepts that define their choice of discipline, complementing their studies by shifting as necessary among studio, gallery, and outdoor spaces to experience optimal learning opportunities. In so doing, our honors students locate their own art-making efforts within a broader technical and art historical context that will help them acquire levels of skill and knowledge that are consistent with the most rigorous honors programs at Culver Academies.

HONORS IN VISUAL ARTS APPLICATION PROCESS

- **Student Responsibilities:** Students interested in pursuing the Honors in Visual Arts Seminar will declare their intentions by the end of their sophomore year to ensure they have met the course requirements and to begin portfolio preparation. Students will notify their academic counselor and the Honors in Visual Arts Coordinator. Because a physical portfolio of the student's work is part of the application process, students should plan to preserve their most successful works of art from each visual arts course.
- **Course Requirements:** Students will complete four high school studio courses (equal to 4 credits) prior to their senior year with a final grade of B+ or above. Three of these courses will be a sequence in a specific discipline: ceramics, painting, photography or sculpture, while the final course will be a studio of the student's choice. Any transfer credits must be from a comparable course(s) and approved by the Honors in Visual Arts Coordinator. Junior high courses will not be considered. Summer classes taken will be for enrichment purposes only and will not replace a required studio course. See chart below for specific prerequisites for each discipline.
- **Application/Portfolio:** During the spring of their junior year, students will submit an application (available for download from the Culver Academies website) and physical portfolio of a minimum of 2 works from each of their visual arts classes taken at Culver Academies, 8 works total. Students should note that the portfolio must consist of actual works of art for drawing/painting and actual prints for all photography. Each 3-D work (ceramics and sculpture) must be represented by three 8"x 10" printed images (color, single-sided) showing the front, side, and back of each work. A neutral backdrop must be used. Any student needing assistance with photography should contact the photography instructor. The portfolio will be evaluated by the visual arts faculty with an emphasis on *skill/technique, composition, principles of design, and craftsmanship*. Works chosen for the portfolio should be complete, finished works, not unfinished class exercises. A college ready portfolio is expected for admittance to this course.
- **Notification:** The visual arts faculty will review all applications and conduct interviews in late spring to determine a student's admittance to the program. All applicants will be notified of their status by the Visual Arts Coordinator as well as the Academic Affairs Office.

REQUIRED COURSES

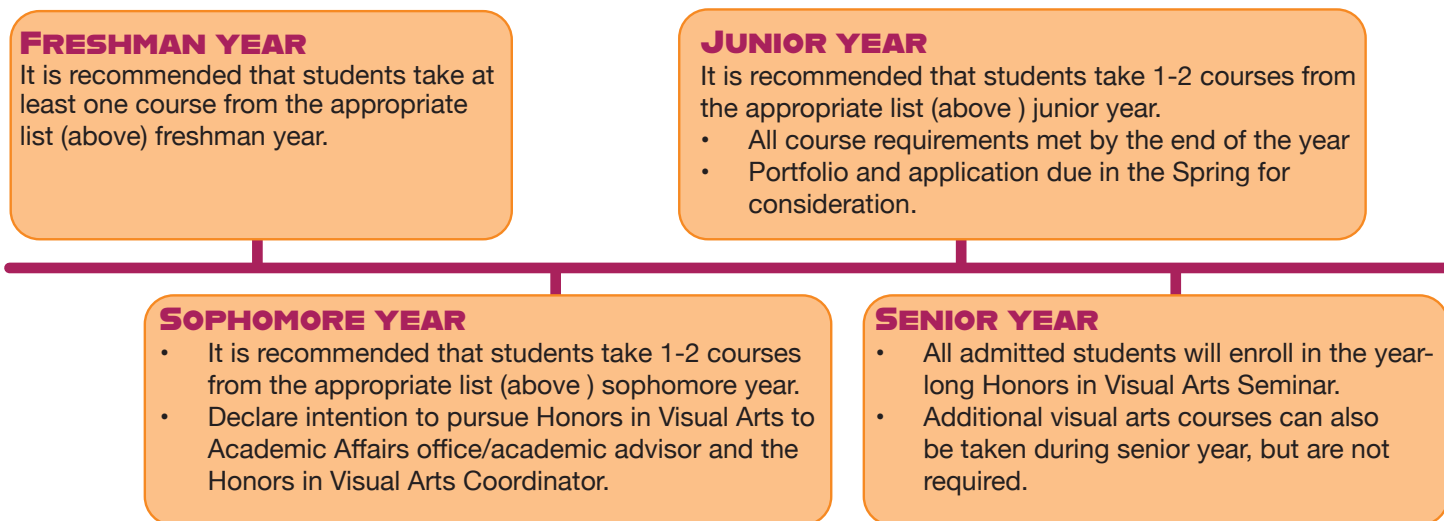
Prerequisites: Students must take four high school studio courses (equal to 4 credits) from the appropriate list below that corresponds to the student's declared area of study. Courses listed in bold are required for each respective discipline. Students may choose from all courses listed under additional electives for their required fourth studio choice or for any optional studio course selections they may choose to take beyond the requirements. Students accepted into the honors program will take the year-long Honors Seminar course their senior year. Transfer credits must be pre-approved by the department.

CERAMICS	PAINTING	PHOTOGRAPHY	SCULPTURE
<p>REQUIRED COURSES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ceramics I Ceramics II: Hand Built Forms Ceramics II: Wheel Thrown Forms Choice of Studio* <p>Students need Ceramics I, Ceramics II: Hand Built Forms, and Ceramics II: Wheel Thrown Forms, plus one additional studio for a ceramics focus. Students are required to declare a focus for Honors in Visual Arts Seminar.</p>	<p>REQUIRED COURSES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drawing & Painting I Drawing II: Portrait & Figure Painting II: Traditional Methods & Materials Choice of Studio* <p>Students need Drawing & Painting I, Drawing II: Portrait & Figure, Painting II: Traditional Methods and Materials, plus one additional studio for a painting focus. Students are required to declare a focus for Honors in Visual Arts Seminar.</p>	<p>REQUIRED COURSES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photography I Photography II: Analog Photography II: Digital Choice of Studio* <p>Students need Photography I, Photography II: Analog, Photography II: Digital, plus one additional studio for a photography focus. Students are required to declare a focus for Honors in Visual Arts Seminar.</p>	<p>REQUIRED COURSES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drawing & Painting I Sculptural Form Equine Sculpture Choice of Studio* <p>Students need Drawing & Painting I, Sculptural Form, and Equine Sculpture for a sculpture focus. Students are required to declare a focus for Honors in Visual Arts Seminar.</p>

***Additional Electives:** Ceramics I, Ceramics II: Hand Built Forms, Ceramics II: Wheel Thrown Forms, Drawing & Painting I, Drawing II: Portrait & Figure, Painting II: Traditional Methods & Materials, Photography I, Photography II: Analog, Photography II: Digital, 2-D Design, 3-D design, Equine Sculpture, Sculptural Form

HONORS TIMELINE

Below is a recommended timeline to ensure that students are on the right track to meet the qualifications and prerequisites to apply for the Honors in Visual Arts Seminar.



HONORS COURSEWORK

During the first semester of their senior year, students accepted into the Honors in Visual Art Seminar will produce works based on selected themes and subject matter with a focus on skill/technique acquisition and mastery. The students will be required to keep a sketchbook to experiment with ideas, explore media, and research art historical topics. A review will occur in December that will determine a student's eligibility to continue in the Honors in Visual Art program. During the second semester, students will produce a portfolio of works that demonstrate the student's commitment to the thoughtful investigation of a specific visual idea. These works will be featured in the final honors exhibition in May. Students should expect to spend an additional 2-4 hours outside of class per week in this course.

HONORS IN VISUAL ARTS

A P P L I C A T I O N



Name: _____

Thank you for your interest in the Honors in Visual Art Seminar. Please fill out this application in its entirety and return to Ms. Westphal, office #102, in the Crisp Visual Arts Center, by **3:30 p.m. on the final day of term 3** with your portfolio and personal essay.

PART A. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will complete a minimum of four high school courses (equal to 4 credits), three in their chosen visual arts discipline, and one choice studio, prior to their senior year with a final grade of B+ or above.* All visual arts disciplines require specific course prerequisites. Please refer to the Honors in Visual Art document for more information. Below: students will check off all courses that have been completed (or currently enrolled in) by the end of their junior year. Transcripts will be requested.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing and Painting I | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography II: Analog |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing II: Portrait and Figure | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography II: Digital |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Painting II: Traditional Methods and Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> 2-D Digital Design |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics I | <input type="checkbox"/> 3-D Digital Design |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics II: Hand Built Forms | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculptural Form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics II: Wheel Thrown Forms | <input type="checkbox"/> Equine Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photography I | |

*As the Visual Arts Foundation course is a one-term, non solid, it is not a qualifying course for Honors in Visual Arts Seminar and was not included on the above list.

PART B. PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

Students will submit a physical portfolio of at least 2 works from each of their visual arts classes taken at Culver Academies, 8 works total. Students should note that the portfolio must consist of actual works of art for drawing/painting and actual prints for photography. Each 3-D work (ceramics and sculpture) must be represented by three 8"x 10" printed images (color, single-sided) showing the front, side, and back of each work. A neutral backdrop must be used when photographing. Any student needing assistance with photography should contact the photography instructor. The portfolio will be evaluated by the visual arts faculty with an emphasis on *skill/technique, composition, principles of design, and craftsmanship*. Works chosen for the portfolio should be complete, finished works, not unfinished class exercises. A college ready portfolio is expected for admittance to this course. Sketchbooks are encouraged to be submitted in addition to the required portfolio works. No digital portfolios will be accepted. **Due by 3:30 p.m. on the final day of term 3.**

PART C. PERSONAL ESSAY

In order for the visual arts instructors to get to know applicants better and to understand their motivation for applying to the Honors in Visual Arts Seminar, students will submit a printed, typed essay (1 page in length) with this application, detailing the following:

- Why the student choose this Honors Seminar
- What the student hopes to gain/learn from taking this Honors Seminar
- What visual arts area the student hopes to focus on. e.g., painting, photography, ceramics, etc. Specifically what theme, problem, or skill will be researched, practiced, and mastered.
- Visual arts involvement outside the classroom (contests, summer courses, etc.)
- Any other arts related information the student would like to include

COMPLETION CHECKLIST:

- Completed application
- Physical portfolio completed
- Personal essay (please attach to application)
- Turn in to Ms. Westphal, office #102, in the Crisp Visual Arts Center, by 3:30 p.m. on the final day of class in term 3. It is the student's responsibility to check exact dates.

The visual arts faculty will review all applications in late spring to determine a student's admittance to the program. Students should be prepared to present their work to the panel. All applicants will be notified of their status by the Visual Arts Coordinator as well as the Academic Affairs Office.

Thank you!