

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

Art I

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. Students are encouraged to take this course for an entire year.

Fine Arts - Art

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. Previous computer experience is not required. Students are encouraged to take this course for an entire year.

Drawing & Painting I

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. Students are encouraged to take this course for an entire year.

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.

ELECTIVE COURSES - ART

2D Animation & Motion Graphics

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Digital Art

Description: This course builds upon skills learned in Digital Art, and explores animation, motion graphics, photography, and audio editing through compelling storytelling. Students learn storyboard creation and character designs using industry standard software and equipment. In-depth techniques, methods and programs all help students sharpen their skills. Students utilize Adobe Creative Suite, learn about the history of animation, and engage in critiques to provide feedback to their peers.

Fine Arts - Art

AP Studio Art: 2D

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of three semesters of art classes and teacher approval

Description: This course is a college-level art-making, portfolio-development experience for serious junior and senior art students. Students develop college-ready portfolios using various 2D media which may include digital art, drawing, painting, photography, or printmaking. Creating the portfolio helps students develop works that foster diverse approaches to thinking and making art, which aligns with college, university, and contemporary disciplinary practices. Students are self-directed and engage in an ongoing dialogue within the course's "community of artists" to examine their art making process and progress. Portfolio development requires skill building in digital documentation. Students develop a sustained investigation, write an artist's statement, and critique their own work and that of others. 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. Students are required to create four pieces of art over the summer; these pieces will be collected during the first week of class. **Note:** All students enrolled in this course **must** fulfill the AP Studio Art: 2D 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.

Art II

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art I or Drawing & Painting I

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.

Art III

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 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.

Art IV

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art III or concurrent enrollment in 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.

Fine Arts - Art

Ceramics I

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of a core 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. 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.

Digital Photography

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of a core art course

Description: In this course, students emphasize both the creative and technical processes of taking digital images using a DSLR camera. Students explore lighting, elements of art, and principles involving composition (selection and arrangement), and will edit, refine, retouch, and manipulate their photographs using professional editing software such as Adobe Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop. The history and appreciation of photography are explored by studying both historical and contemporary photographers. Students also learn how to output their photographs in both print and online formats for critique, exhibition, and display. The majority of photoshoot assignments are accomplished during class time. Students are encouraged to take this course for an entire year.

Drawing & Painting II

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art I or Drawing & Painting I

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.

Drawing & Painting III

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Drawing & Painting II or 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.

Fine Arts - Art

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.

Graphic Design I

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Digital Art or consent of Division Chair

Description: This course builds on the foundation in the basic principles of design. Students develop digital art skills and discover their use in a potential career. Students use problem solving and creative thinking to create print-based media, and study the communication of ideas and information through the integration of typography, symbols, illustration, and imagery. The course familiarizes students with industry standard software and equipment (Adobe Creative Suite, Wacom Tablets, and more) and current methods, techniques, and technology employed in the fields of arts, advertising, and building a studio portfolio. Students are encouraged to take this course for an entire year.

Graphic Design II

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Graphic Design I

Description: This course provides students the opportunity to further develop the skills they learned in Graphic Design I. Students develop advanced skills and explore careers and application of those skills in both individual and collaborative projects. The course is structured to emulate a professional setting with individual and group challenges. 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. Group and class critiques focus on design elements and principles, typography, imagery, and illustration for artwork based on the project's target audience and purpose. This course may be taken up to two times, upon consent of the Division Chair.

Introduction to Jewelry Making

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

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course introduces students to traditional and experimental approaches in jewelry fabrication, as well as some of the different materials that may be used. It explores basic techniques and design concepts, as well as form and function applied to construction. Students focus on the creation of wearable jewelry, and develop an awareness of materials and processes and design originality. Students research artists, cultures, and processes, while guided projects explore materials such as beads, paper, leather, resin, wood, wire, metal, raku clay, and polymer clay.