

Ninth Grade Elective Courses

ART DEPARTMENT

CERAMICS I

Credit: 1

This course offers an exploration of the properties of clay as related to pottery and ceramics. Students will learn various hand building techniques and the potter's wheel. Surface decoration techniques are widely explored.

*******FASHION ILLUSTRATION (Alternate Days)**

Credit: .5

Note: This class alternates with Fashion Design

Students will learn to draw the fashion face and figure, explore drawing, painting, and pen and ink techniques in order to design clothing for men, women and children. Students will study clothing styles and by the end of the course, students will have developed their own personal style and fashion statement through their own work.

*******STUDIO IN ART**

Credit: 1/5

*******STUDIO IN ART A/ B (1/2 year or Alt Days)**

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of drawing, painting, sculpture, and art history. Students will learn the elements and principles of design while exploring different media, various techniques, and the influence of art history. At the completion of this course students will have developed a strong foundation in art should they desire to enroll in additional art courses.

STUDIO IN CRAFTS (1/2 year or Alt Days)

Credit: .5

This course offers students the opportunity to work with various materials such as wood, wire, paper mache and plaster. Students will gain an understanding of works of art characterized as *craft* and develop an appreciation of various styles, techniques, cultures, and materials as it pertains to crafts as an art form.

*******STUDIO IN MEDIA**

Credit: 1

This foundation course is recommended for students with an interest in photography, computer graphics, animation and video. Students will have introduction experiences in each of these categories. After developing basic skills in groups, students will have the opportunity to create their own media art.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (1/2 year or Alt Days)

Credit: .5

The objective of this course is to provide students with computer skills that will be useful in high school, college and throughout their lives. Students will be provided a hands-on opportunity to explore some of the modern computer software productivity tools used in the business world through Microsoft Office. Students become familiar with the manipulation of data through the use of Word, PowerPoint and Excel. Additionally, students will learn effective internet search strategies and how to evaluate the veracity and authenticity of web content.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING I

Credit: 1

Students are introduced to computer programming, logic and techniques using the RealBasic language. Emphasis is placed on developing skills in problem analysis by means of computer programming. Using mathematical computation and technological knowledge, students will explore ways to design and create applications through activities and projects.

DESKTOP PUBLISHING (1/2 year or Alt Days)**Credit: .5**

This course is designed for the students as an introduction to the state-of-the-art, professional-level computer applications used in the publication field. Students will gain marketable skills by learning Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and InDesign to create top-quality printed materials such as playbills, brochures, newsletters and advertisements. Students will learn how to create and import graphics, scan images, manipulate fonts and use special graphic effects to produce professional documents.

PERSONAL MONEY MANAGEMENT (1/2 year or Alt Days)**Credit: .5**

This course is designed to help students prepare themselves for living in the modern world. Students will explore and investigate different careers and educational requirements and will acquire the skills necessary to develop financial responsibility, manage finances, understand the use of credit and the incurrence of debt and understand the basics of business organization, current workplace issues and will compete in the Stock Market Game while exploring the world of finance and the fast-paced environment of Wall Street.

WEB DESIGN I**Credit: 1**

Learn to explore the Internet and obtain information for reports, projects, and personal use. Students will develop website pages using the basics of Hypertext Markup language (HTML), the language of the World Wide Web. Students will also explore Dreamweaver software to create WebPages that integrate word processing, graphics, and photographs as well as other layout techniques.

APP INVENTOR**Credit: .5**

Never coded but want to learn how to build apps? Then you've come to the right place. This course starts at the very beginning and then will walk you through building progressively more complex apps. You'll learn how to build many types of apps and you'll learn programming concepts and terminology.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**CHILD DEVELOPMENT I (1/2 year or Alt Days)****Credit: .5**

This course provides students with a knowledge base and practical experience in child development from the prenatal period through pre-adolescence for application to his or her present role as a family member, as a future parent, and/or in a career. Students will learn through the engagement of project-based assignments. Major units of study include: children and parenting, prenatal development, infant growth and development, toddler and preschool development and careers in child care.

CULINARY ARTS**Credit: 1**

This comprehensive course in food and nutrition is designed to provide students with the skills and techniques necessary for the preparation of a variety of foods. Course content includes nutrition awareness, meal management, preparation of foods and career exploration.

INTERNATIONAL CUISINE**Credit: 1**

Students will learn about the cultures and cuisine of different regions of the world. Students will work in lab groups to create and sample cuisines from these regions. For those students who may be interested in pursuing a culinary career, this course would provide a foundation in knife skills, food preparation, and presentation. Visits from culinary professionals and college presenters will be part of the course.

******FASHION DESIGN (Alternate Days)**

Credit: .5

Note: This class alternates with Fashion Illustration

This course is an introduction to fashion and clothing construction skills. Students will sew their own garments, evaluate the quality of ready to wear clothing and explore fashion design principles. Clothing care, textiles, consumerism and careers will be integral parts of the course. Successful completion of both *Fashion Illustration* and *Fashion Design* will satisfy the minimum art requirement for graduation.

FOOD INVESTIGATIONS

Credit: .5

Students will cook, bake, experiment and taste a variety of foods. Using scientific methods students will solve problems by conducting food experiments to describe chemical reactions that occur during the cooking/baking process. Why does popcorn pop? What is a food scientist? Is this a real profession? Take this interactive class and find out the answers to these questions and more!

INTERIOR DESIGN (Alternate Days)

Credit: .5

Through hands on experience, students will learn elements and principles of design as they relate to architecture and interior decorating. Students will learn the essential components of interior design and create a final plan for an interior space. The course will highlight decorating trends, lifestyles, types of dwellings, units of color, furniture styles and career exploration.

SCIENCE

SCIENCE RESEARCH I (Alternate Days)

Credit: .5

Prerequisites: Students need departmental approval for placement.

This is an introductory research class that is designed to expose students to research techniques. This course is designed to help develop effective research skills and abilities. The overall goal of the course is to prepare students to conduct advanced research projects if they move forward in the program. Students will have the opportunity to compete in various science competitions.

MUSIC

*****BAND/ORCHESTRA/CHORUS 1 Year**

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Audition and /or previous participation

These performing groups pursue the art of playing a musical instrument or singing in an ensemble. At the same time, students will be improving individual performing skills. These courses cover a broad variety of musical literature that will be read, rehearsed, and/or performed by each group. Public performances are the culmination of at least some of the selections prepared. The student in the performing group may also be eligible for nomination to All-County, the Long Island String Festival (string instrument players only), All-State, and All-Eastern performing organizations. The work requirements include learning about music and how to play the instrument or sing through home practice, class participation, and the preparation of assigned materials. There may be performance tests on the assigned material. Students are required to attend a weekly lesson on a rotating basis. Since participation beyond the school day (sometimes involving evening and/or weekend activities) is required for students joining these groups, and band students are required to participate in non-competitive marching band and all of its activities, students enrolling in these groups, in order to maintain membership, must be prepared to make a commitment to all of the activities of the group.

*******GUITAR I/GUITAR II**

Credit: 1

Using the Music in Our Lives as a model, these guitar courses are designed to meet the needs of the guitar student and will equip the student with the ability to read musical notation and to develop facility on the fingerboard by playing songs and chords. Areas of study will include listening to and analyzing all styles of guitar music, performing, composing and using technology. Students do not need to have their own guitar; guitars are available to use in school. Students will be required to perform for the teacher on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, take written exams and develop an independent project. Enrollment in Guitar II is by audition.

*******MUSIC THEORY I****Credit: 1**

This course seeks to explore music theory and study the “building blocks” of musical composition. Students will focus on basic chord progressions and structure, major, minor, and modal scales, the ability to identify scales, intervals and chords by sight and sound, sight singing, basic four-part harmonic structure and composition techniques, and other areas. Students will be expected to develop, through class work, homework, and practice, the aural, visual, and vocal assignments that will be given to assess mastery and development of skills. Tests will be given, and they will involve aural, written, and vocal skills in order to evaluate the degree to which these skills are being mastered and/or developed.

*******DIGITAL MUSIC PRODUCTION****Credit: 1**

This course is designed for students who wish to gain a working knowledge of electronic music through the use of synthesizers and other electronic devices. Electronic Music Lab I begins with a non-technical approach to the principles of sound production, acoustics and sound synthesis. Previous knowledge of electronics is not required. Electronic instruments used in this class will be supplied. Students will be required to perform or demonstrate for the teacher and class the projects they have been working on in class. This will be done on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Students will have written exams on items discussed and will be evaluated on their projects for the teacher each week. Electronic Music meets the one year high school music or art requirement set forth in the Regents Action Plan.

*******THEATRE WORKSHOP I****Credit: 1**

This course gives exposure to skills relating to dramatic and musical performance. These areas include voice production, body movement, dance, speech, singing, poise, expression, self-confidence and the teaching of all aspects of stagecraft. Students prepare work in all of the above-mentioned areas, moving from their starting level to a more advanced level. Testing may be written, performance, and/or the critiquing of others.

DANCE**Credit: 1**

The dance course is designed to expose beginners to a variety of dance styles while allowing more advanced students to expand their abilities. A variety of dance styles are explored: basic Ballet, Modern, Jazz, Tap, period dance, and movement of various cultures. Testing may be written, performance, and/or the critiquing of others. Appropriate clothing is required and character or other appropriate dance shoes are recommended.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE**Credit: .5****Prerequisite: Audition**

Students in the Jazz Ensemble will be offered the opportunity to enhance their education in music and develop their abilities as players through rehearsals and performances of jazz ensemble repertoire. In addition, portions of the course are devoted to the development of the skills associated with improvisation, and the history of the uniquely American art form known as Jazz. Acceptance into the course is by audition. Selections are made based upon the aptitude shown by a student at the audition and the instrumentation needs of the ensemble. Students taking the course for credit are graded based upon class participation, which includes attendance, class preparation, and periodic evaluations of their playing. At the end of the school year, students seeking credit will take a final examination, containing both written questions and/or a performance portion. A final project may be assigned. Participation in the Jazz Ensemble involves rehearsals and performances which may take place **after school and/or on weekends**. Students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances in order to maintain membership and receive academic credit, if applicable, for their participation in the course. Additional remedial instruction may be required as necessary.

*******PIANO I/PIANO II (Semester or Alternate Days)****Credit: .5**

Using the New York State’s “Music in Our Lives” guide as a model, the piano course is designed to meet the needs of the piano student and will equip the student with the ability to read musical notation and to develop facility on the keyboard by playing compositions. Areas of study will include: listening to and analyzing all styles of piano music, performing, music history, composing and using technology. Students will be required to perform for the teacher on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, take written exams and develop an independent project. The Piano II course is a more in-depth study of piano skills, listening analysis and theory. Students will begin to play more challenging repertoires from the classical, jazz and American Song Book genres. Students will be required to perform for the teacher on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, take written exams and develop an independent project. Enrollment in Piano II is by audition.

TECHNOLOGY

******PLTW DESIGN AND DRAWING**

******PLTW DESIGN AND DRAWING A (1/2 year or Alt Days)**

Credit: 1/5

This exciting introductory class will challenge students to develop problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is a national STEM program that engages students with hands on activities. This is a great starter course for all students interested in engineering, architecture, and drafting. Students will use traditional and computer aided drafting (CAD) while exploring new and exciting design problems. Successful completion of a full year of this course satisfies the NYS graduation requirement in art and students will have a chance to receive college credit through Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT).

ROBOTICS I

Credit: 1

This program is designed to teach the fundamentals of electricity and robotics. The students will be introduced to safety, construction, power, energy, AC and DC circuitry, home applications, and communications systems. The exploration of robotics will include research and design, problem-solving, and practical applications. The students will acquire knowledge and skill in these areas through academic and hands-on experience. Grades will be based on written exams and performance evaluation.