GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

WAACS Graduation Requirements
The cycle grades are calculated numerically, and the final grade is the average of the numeric grade. The grading system used is the 4.0 alphabetical system as follows.

Requirements Graduation from Westinghouse Arts Academy for the class of 2023+ requires the satisfactory completion of a minimum of 26 credits comprised as follows:

- English: 4 credits
- Social Studies: 3 credits
- Science: 3 credits
- Math: 3 credits
- Health/PE: 2.0 credits
- Electives: 11.0 credits*

*2 credits must be completed in Arts/Humanities for each year in attendance at WAACS

All students must also comply with any testing requirements as established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

State Graduation Requirements (Beginning with the Class of 2022)
Through Act 158 of 2018 and Act 6 of 207, students must meet statewide high school graduation requirements through the successful completion of one of five graduation pathways to show their college, career and community readiness:

1. Keystone Proficiency Pathway
2. Keystone Composite Pathway
3. CTE Concentrator Pathway (this pathway is not possible at WAACS)
4. Alternative Assessment Pathway
5. Evidence-Based Pathway
Students can meet the statewide graduation requirement by:

- Scoring proficient or advanced on each Keystone Exam - Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.
- Earning a satisfactory composite score on the Algebra I, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams. The passing composite score is 4452 or better. A student must have taken all three Keystone Exams and must have at least one Keystone Exam score of Proficient or Advanced and no Keystone Exam score of Below Basic.
- Earning a passing grade on the courses associated with each Keystone Exam, and satisfactorily complete one of the following: an alternative assessment (SAT, PSAT, ACT, ASVAB, Gold Level ACT WorkKeys), advanced coursework (AP, IB, concurrent enrollment courses), pre-apprenticeship, or acceptance in a 4-year nonprofit institution of higher education for college-level coursework.
- Earning a passing grade on the courses associated with each Keystone Exam, and passing the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) or the National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS) assessment in an approved Career and Technical Education concentration.
- Earning a passing grade on the courses associated with each Keystone Exam, and demonstrating readiness for postsecondary engagement through three pieces of evidence from the student’s career portfolio aligned to student goals and a career plan. Examples of evidence will include ACT WorkKeys, SAT Subject tests, AP, IB and concurrent coursework, higher education acceptance, community learning project, completion of an internship, externship or co-op or full-time employment.

CLASS RANK

Class rank will be calculated based upon the unit value of each course and the weighted grade received in that course. Class rank will be posted at the end of each academic year. Only classes scheduled for students in grades 9-12, will appear on transcripts and calculated in GPA and Class Rank.

CLASS STANDING

The minimum number of credits necessary for advancement is listed below, although the principal may use discretionary powers in unusual circumstances to waive the standards:

Credit Requirements to Reach Next Grade Level:

- 10th grade: 6
- 11th grade: 13
- 12th grade: 20
HONORS AND AP COURSE OFFERINGS

Courses with an Honors or Advanced Placement designation will be given extra “weight” for Honor Roll and RANK calculations ONLY. All honors courses count as a level 2 weighted course and all advanced placement courses count as a level 3 weighted course for the purposes of honor roll and class rank only. The Advanced Placement exam will be optional for all students taking an Advanced Placement course. The cost of the advanced placement examination(s) will be covered by the student and then if a score of “3” or higher is obtained WAACS will reimburse the students. The availability of these courses are dependent upon academic need and interest.

| Honors English 9, 10, 11, 12 | AP U.S. Government & Politics |
| Honors Biology | AP U.S. History |
| Honors Chemistry | AP European History |
| Pre-Calculus | AP World History |
| Honors Algebra II | AP English Literature and Composition |
| Honors Geometry | AP English Language and Composition |
| | AP Chemistry |
| | AP Physics |
| | AP Calculus |

COLLEGE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Dual Enrollment
- Carlow University
- Seton Hill University

Early College Programs:
- University of Pennsylvania
- Penn State Fayette
- California University of Pennsylvania
- Seton Hill University
- Point Park University
- University of Pittsburgh
- Slippery Rock University
SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

Important notice to Students and Parents:
Be absolutely certain of your course selections. There will be no student or parent initiated schedule changes after the first 5 days of the semester. Dropping a course after the 5 day period may result in a Withdraw Pass (WP) or a Withdraw Fail (WF) on your transcript. If any changes need to be made after this 5 day period, they MUST be approved in writing by the original teacher, new teacher, school counselor, principal, and parent.

In selecting your courses for next year, you should consider the following:
● (1) graduation requirements of Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School
● (2) the courses that will meet future educational and/or vocational needs,
● (3) your ability and aptitude to meet the class requirements.

In order to achieve this, you, the student, must plan and understand yourself, your capabilities, your interests and limitations. You should plan ahead and discuss your course selections with parents/guardians, counselors and teachers. If you wish to talk to the school counselor you may make an appointment. Parents/guardians wishing to discuss your selections can call 412-646-1718 to schedule an appointment with your student’s school counselor. Students are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that all graduation requirements are met.

Requests for schedule changes will be difficult if not impossible to accommodate after the last week of school. Schedule changes requested after the last day of school will be limited to the following categories: 1. Failure of a required subject that must be repeated 2. Successful completion of a summer school course 3. Schedule conflicts occur or errors are made by the school during the scheduling process 4. Students register for a class with prerequisites during the scheduling process and then perform poorly during the remainder of the school year

WORK RELEASE PROGRAM

WAACS recognizes that as students reach their senior year there sometimes exists a need to be released from school on a daily basis for reasons of employment and/ or family illness. This Work Release Program is designed to meet that need while ensuring that the student fulfills all of the requirements needed to graduate from WAACS.

Requirements
1. The applicant must be a 2nd semester graduating senior.
2. The applicant must have a class schedule that will fulfill all requirements for graduation.
3. If under age, the applicant must possess a valid Employment Certificate. Students must obtain an employment certificate (work permit) from their home district.
To continue in the Work Release Program, the student must submit an Employer Verification Form that shows the hours worked and that employment is continued to the school counselor at the end of each month. The form will reveal the days and hours that the student has worked and contain a description of their job duties and other accomplishments related to the position. A minimum of six (6) hours per week must be worked during the school day.

Participation in the work release will be terminated when the student’s job is terminated. Work release will also be terminated when the student accumulates more than three (3) unexcused absences or more than five (5) unexcused cases of tardiness to school. Work release will also be terminated if the student’s grade point average falls below 1.75 or if the student receives an “F” in any of his/her classes during any grading period.

Under no circumstances will any student, approved for this program, be released from school prior to the end of their second period class.

The Work Release Program may be applied to situations involving long-term family illness. If a student is to be released for a reason of long-term family illness, the student must present proof that he/she is needed at home. This proof will be in the form of a letter from the student’s family doctor. The letter will describe the need for the student’s early release and will list the days and hours that they will be needed at home. The student must also present a letter from their parents verifying the need for the student to be at home and granting permission to be released at a designated time. This requirement for parental verification will be waived if the applicant is eighteen years of age or older and no longer lives with their parents. This requirement will also be waived if the applicant has been declared an emancipated youth as provided by law.

**SCHOOL TO CAREER PATHWAY OPTIONS**

There are four school to career pathways that students can follow throughout their four years at Westinghouse Arts Academy to prepare them for life after high school. These specific pathways and their purpose and goals are presented below. Students will be assisted in the development of a program of study based on their interests and abilities, but they will be expected to assume responsibility for meeting the minimum requirements.

❖ **General Education Pathway**

This pathway will provide students with a general academic base. It is intended to prepare students for entrance to 2-year colleges, trade schools, and certificate programs. Students are free to explore a wide range of elective courses to meet their varied and specialized interests. Students in this pathway will be prepared for admission to institutions of higher learning by proper selection of academic and elective subjects and also by maintaining a high scholastic rating. It also prepares students with a high motivation to enter the workforce immediately after high school.
❖ Honors College Preparatory Pathway
This pathway will provide students with a strong academic base focusing on advanced levels of English, Math, Social Studies and Science. This pathway is challenging and is appropriate for students who plan to attend a college or university. It also prepares for direct entry to college and should be followed by students with high academic ability and interest. It is intended to prepare students for entrance into 4-year colleges/universities. Students are free to explore a wide range of elective courses to meet their varied and specialized interests. Students in this pathway will be prepared for admission to institutions of higher learning by proper selection of academic and elective subjects and also by maintaining a high scholastic rating.

❖ Advanced College Preparatory Pathway
The Advance College Preparatory Pathway is intended to prepare students for entrance into 4-year colleges/universities. This pathway will provide students with a strong academic base focusing on advanced levels of English, Math, Social Studies and Science. This pathway is challenging and is appropriate for students who plan to attend a college or university. This is a pathway that prepares for direct entry to college and should be followed by students with high academic ability and interest. Students are free to explore a wide range of elective courses to meet their varied and specialized interests. Students in this pathway will be prepared for admission to institutions of higher learning by proper selection of academic and elective subjects and also by maintaining a high scholastic rating.

❖ Career Preparatory Pathway
The Career Preparatory Pathway is intended to prepare students for entrance into career exploration after graduation. This is a pathway that prepares for entry into career exploration and should be followed by students with academic ability and interest in career exploration. Students are free to explore a wide range of elective courses to meet their varied and specialized interests. Students in this pathway will be prepared for admission into career options by proper selection of academic and elective subjects and also by maintaining a scholastic rating.

ACADEMIC COURSE OFFERINGS:

English Language Arts
- Academic English 9
- Honors English 9
- Academic English 10
- Honors English 10
- Academic English 11
- Honors English 11
Academic English 12
Honors English 12
AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition

Mathematics
Pre-Algebra
Algebra I
Algebra I-A
Algebra I-B
Geometry
Honors Geometry
Algebra II
Honors Algebra II
Pre-Calculus
Trigonometry
Financial Literacy
AP Calculus

Science
Physical/Earth Science
Biology
Honors Biology
Chemistry
Honors Chemistry
Environmental Science
AP Environmental Science
AP Physics
Honors Physics

Social Studies
World History
Honors World History
US History
Honors US History
Civics & Government
Honors Civics & Government
AP European History
AP U.S. Government & Politics
AP U.S. History
AP World History
Psychology

**Physical Education & Health**
Health 9-12
Fitness 9-12
Yoga 9-12

**Seminar Courses**
Freshman Seminar - *Mandatory*
Freshman Seminar Part B
Senior Seminar/Senior Project - *Mandatory*

**General Electives**
Spanish I
Spanish II
Spanish III
ACADEMIC COURSES - COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT COURSES

ENGLISH 9
Designed to introduce students to a variety of literary forms, themes, and cultures, while guiding students to develop a stronger sense of grammar usage and mechanics in their writing. Emphasis will be placed on analysis of character, plot devices, and historical context of major works of literature. Class assignments will feature several in-class readings and discussion of texts including: articles, essays, short stories, epic poems, and full-length novels. Students will also produce essays and research-based assignments.

HONORS ENGLISH 9
This course, which focuses on studying literature of various genres, is designed for students who possess superior language arts ability. Throughout the year, students will read and analyze poems, short stories, novels and plays from classical and contemporary writers. Students will enhance their reading comprehension, writing, grammar, communication and vocabulary skills. Students will also complete a research project and write multi-paragraph compositions.

ENGLISH 10
This course will have a strong emphasis on preparation for the Literature Keystone Exam. English 10 reading assignments will prepare for the Keystone Exam through a variety of fiction and nonfiction, including short stories, poetry, novels, and plays. Students will produce their own essays and research-based assignments to gain a deeper understanding of the writing process and to master how to prepare a Constructed Response for the Keystone Exam, Vocabulary and grammar instruction will support the writing assignments as well as preparation for the Keystone Exam.

HONORS ENGLISH 10
This course is an in-depth survey of world literature including short stories, poetry, novels, drama, and non-fiction. Emphasis is on the exploration and discussion of human and moral qualities revealed through literature. Instruction in student writing continues through an ordered sequence of rhetorical and literary essays, as well as research. This course has been designed as a pre-AP course. It will include a strong focus on the art of argument. There will be an emphasis on grammar and vocabulary. The knowledge gained in this course will help you in future AP courses, as well as college classes. Finally,
there will be a strong emphasis on preparation for the Literature Keystone Exam.

**ENGLISH 11**

The English 11 course will focus upon American and world literature, including fiction, nonfiction (including informational texts), drama, and poetry from the 17th century. Students will gain a rich understanding of developments and themes which enhance their understanding of American history and culture. They will improve their critical thinking skills as they further develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills as well as strong inquiry strategies. In addition, they have the opportunity to engage in interdisciplinary studies by studying history, culture, and art alongside the literature. Students will focus on writing argumentative, analytical, and expository essays in addition to various creative assignments. Students will also learn important research skills as they write literary and informative research reports.

**HONORS ENGLISH 11**

English 11 Honors is a study of American and world literature, including fiction, nonfiction (including informational texts), drama, and poetry. As an honors level class, this course moves at a faster pace than English 11 and allows for enrichment. Students use literary interpretation, analysis, comparison, and evaluation to read and to respond to representative works of historical or cultural significance across universal themes, such as the American Dream. Students examine and compose various types of writing including, literary analysis, satire, synthesis, and narrative as well as deliver grade-appropriate multimedia presentations and access, analyze, and evaluate online and printed information.

**ENGLISH 12**

In this course, students explore powerful works of fiction from around the globe and across the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries. In addition to placing each novel in its own particular social-historical context, students also work to recognize commonalities in the human experience across cultures and time periods. Explorations of enduring themes such as love, family, memory, and culture are woven throughout the course. Students will spend time examining the techniques and styles of the various authors, analyzing how each author crafts his or her story and communicates his or her message. Students will hone their rhetorical analysis, vocabulary, and grammar skills, and deepen their understanding of how authors use particular strategies to effectively communicate their ideas to a given audience.

**HONORS ENGLISH 12**

In this course, students explore literature from around the globe and across the centuries, with particular emphasis on intertextuality and the authors' use of allusions to other great works of literature to deepen their own messages. As an honors level class, this course moves at a faster pace than English 12 and allows for enrichment. In addition to the works of literature, there is a unit on
famous speeches. Students work to recognize commonalities in the human experience across texts and explore enduring themes throughout the course. Students will hone their rhetorical analysis, vocabulary, and grammar skills, as well as deepen their understanding of how authors use particular strategies to effectively communicate their ideas to a given audience.

AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION 11/12
The AP Language and Composition course provides students with the information necessary to read analytically, formulate theories and arguments based on readings, and respond by composing articulate essays that utilize advanced elements of sentence structure, syntax, style, purpose, and tone. Using rhetorical principles, students learn how to become critical thinkers and apply that knowledge to their reading and writing. In addition, students are required to thoroughly research relevant topics, synthesize information from a variety of sources, and document their knowledge of notations and footnotes as well as write multiple essays, both timed and untimed. This course is a college level course and students may choose to take the AP exam.

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION 11/12
The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. In the course, students study literary works written in—or translated into—English. Careful reading and critical analysis of such works provides opportunities for students to develop an appreciation of ways literature reflects and comments on a range of experiences, institutions, and social structures. Students will examine the choices literary writers make and the techniques they utilize to achieve purposes and generate meanings. This is a college level course and students may choose to take the AP exam.

MATH DEPARTMENT COURSES

PRE-ALGEBRA
This course is designed to establish a foundation of mathematical concepts to prepare students for an Algebra class. The course focuses on creating a bridge between concepts covered in traditional middle school math classes and a typical high school Algebra course. Topics covered include mathematical
reasoning, pattern recognition, developing number sense, developing mathematical vocabulary, data analysis and prediction, geometric concepts, measurement, and algebraic problem solving.

**ALGEBRA I**

Algebra is the study of mathematical patterns and ideas. The course content is balanced among learning skills, exploring concepts, and solving problems. Technology is used to gather, interpret, and represent data from real-world situations. Creating and using mathematical models is a theme throughout. Algebra is integrated with geometry, probability, and statistics. Topics covered include equations—linear, quadratic, and exponential—as well as systems of equations and inequalities, functions, and polynomials. The course prepares students to take the PA Algebra I Keystone exam, a state-mandated end of course assessment.

**ALGEBRA I PART A**

This Algebra course is the first part of a two course sequence that covers the entire Algebra I curriculum. Algebra I is the study of mathematical patterns and ideas. The course content is balanced among learning skills, exploring concepts, and solving problems. Technology is used to gather, interpret, and represent data from real-world situations. Creating and using mathematical models is a theme throughout. Algebra is integrated with geometry, probability, and statistics. Topics covered include equations—linear, quadratic, and exponential—as well as systems of equations and inequalities, functions, and polynomials. The course, along with Algebra I Part B, prepares students to take the PA Algebra I Keystone exam, a state-mandated end of course assessment. Students are required to take the PA Algebra I Keystone Exam when enrolled in Algebra I Part B.

**ALGEBRA I PART B**

This Algebra course is the second part of a two course sequence that covers the entire Algebra I curriculum. Algebra I is the study of mathematical patterns and ideas. The course content is balanced among learning skills, exploring concepts, and solving problems. Technology is used to gather, interpret, and represent data from real-world situations. Creating and using mathematical models is a theme throughout. Algebra is integrated with geometry, probability, and statistics. Topics covered include equations—linear, quadratic, and exponential—as well as systems of equations and inequalities, functions, and polynomials. The course, along with Algebra I Part A, prepares students to take the PA Algebra I Keystone exam, a state-mandated end of course assessment. Students are required to take the PA Algebra I Keystone Exam when enrolled in Algebra I Part B.

**GEOMETRY**

Geometry is investigation-driven and activity-based. It covers topics from Euclidean Geometry such as deductive proof, properties of polygons, circles, similar/congruent triangles, parallel lines,
area and volume, the Pythagorean Theorem, and basic concepts of right triangle trigonometry. Coordinate Geometry topics of slope, determining an equation of a line, parallel and perpendicular lines, distance and midpoint formulas and transformations will also be covered. Computer technology and traditional Geometry tools will be used in the investigations.

HONORS GEOMETRY
Topics studied in this challenging course include the study critical deductive and inductive reasoning, and the axiomatic method of proof. Students will also develop reasoning and problem-solving skills in the areas of congruence, similarity, the properties of lines, triangles, polygons, circles and basic concepts of right triangle trigonometry. The course will also include work with transformations, perimeter, area, circumference, surface area, and volume to solve real-world problems. Students are expected to function at an abstract analytical level, be capable of independent thought and possess a strong spatial aptitude. This course is primarily for 9th grade students who completed Algebra I in middle school and earned a B or higher in the course.

ALGEBRA II
The focus of Algebra II is primarily the study of functions. Students build on their work with linear, quadratic, and exponential functions, and apply them to problems that require higher order thinking skills. Students will be challenged by new concepts that require the ability to model situations and solve equations, including solving quadratic and polynomial equations, investigating the set of complex numbers and solving exponential equations using the properties of logarithms. Small group work, discussion, and the real-world interpretation of mathematics are stressed. Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra I Part A and Algebra I Part B.

HONORS ALGEBRA II
This course will provide a rigorous and comprehensive background for students of high mathematical ability. The curriculum includes the study of linear and nonlinear functions (polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational). The course also extends the study of algebra from real numbers to the complex number system. Students must demonstrate their grasp of essential concepts through their interactions with each other. Challenge problems, projects, and group work extend and expand the material and provide the opportunity for students to communicate mathematical understanding.

TRIGONOMETRY
Trigonometry is a course that provides students with insight into mathematical ideas involving trigonometry by making connections to both algebra and geometry. This course begins by reviewing basic concepts needed for trigonometry. As students continue with the course, they will learn: The Six Trigonometric Functions, Right Triangle Trigonometry, Radian Measure, Graphing and Inverse Functions, Identities and Formulas, Equations & Triangles. Throughout the course, students will discover examples...
of the role of mathematics in daily life. This course will prepare students for more advanced mathematics courses in high school. Prerequisites: 70% or higher in Algebra II.

**PRE-CALCULUS**
This course is designed to serve students who are preparing for Calculus or further work in mathematics. As a pre-calculus course it offers an analytical, graphical and numerical approach to understanding polynomials, exponential functions, logarithms, and a wide variety of trigonometry topics. Additional topics may include polar graphs, conic sections, matrices, sequences and series. Real life applications and data interpretation are integral parts of this course of study.

**AP CALCULUS**
AP Calculus AB is devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus including the concepts and skills of limits, derivatives, definite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. The course teaches students to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to make connections amongst these representations. Students learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions. This is a college level course and students may choose to take the AP exam.

**FINANCIAL LITERACY**
The Financial Literacy course addresses three high-level goals related to preparing teens for financial independence:

- Build confidence to make financial decisions related to managing personal financial resources, building earning capability, protecting assets, and adapting to unexpected events.
- Apply sound foundational financial decision making principles through the many stages of life.
- Exhibit mindful money management behaviors that benefit themselves and their families.

The course uses state and national curriculum in the big areas of money management, earning money, borrowing money, financial services, risk management and saving and investing. The topics are taught through student reflection, financial what-if games and scenarios, and project based learning.
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT COURSES

PHYSICAL/EARTH SCIENCE
Physical Science is the study of matter and energy and includes chemistry and physics. It is a basis for the further study of chemistry and physics. Labs or investigations are used to give students hands-on learning and practical applications as well as to teach the material. Topics that will be studied include: matter, the periodic table, elements, mixtures, compounds, chemical reactions, light and electromagnetic spectrum, energy, heat, motion, Newton’s laws and momentum.

BIOLOGY
This course serves as an overview to the realm of biological science with a focus towards preparing students for the Biology Keystone Examination. Divided into two sections, emphasis will be placed on cellular, molecular, and environmental concepts. Furthermore, students will frequently work cooperatively to perform hands-on experiments, activities and projects in areas such as biochemistry, genetics, evolution, microbiology, and cell functions.

HONORS BIOLOGY
This course aims to explore both micro and macroscopic phenomena within the biological domain. Building upon introductory explorations in biology and chemistry, this prior knowledge will culminate into applications through anatomy/physiology, neuroscience, and biopsychology. Topics such as macromolecule structure/function, enzymatic activity, genetics, and cellular processes and reproduction will be recontextualized and investigated in greater depth to the level of an introductory college biology course. Students will gain insights into the microscopic world through traditional lectures and discussions during group classes while individuals will gain hands-on laboratory experience through supplemental anatomy lessons and dissections. Successful students will leave this course with a greater appreciation and understanding of how living beings are organized and function, as well as possessing a preparedness for any future science, pre-medical, or nursing course of study.

CHEMISTRY
This course develops understanding about the relationships between the structure and properties of matter and the interaction of matter and energy. Students will investigate the formation of the first elements and their transformation to heavier elements and use this knowledge to explore the structure of an atom and patterns in the periodic table. Students will investigate the forces that hold matter together and how society uses its understanding of elements and molecules to develop useful materials. Students will explore the interactions of atoms and molecules as illustrated by chemical reactions. Projects and laboratory activities reinforce chemistry concepts and principles.
HONORS CHEMISTRY
This rigorous and math-intensive honors course develops understanding about the relationships between the structure and properties of matter and the interaction of matter and energy. Students will investigate the formation of the first elements and their transformation to heavier elements and use this knowledge to explore the structure of an atom and patterns in the periodic table. Students will investigate the forces that hold matter together and how society uses its understanding of elements and molecules to develop useful materials. Students will explore the interactions of atoms and molecules as illustrated by chemical reactions. Chemistry Honors will utilize a similar curriculum as the Chemistry course but delve deeper into the concepts and will move at a faster pace. Projects and laboratory activities reinforce chemistry concepts and principles.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
This course offers students the opportunity to apply scientific knowledge to practical current problems helping to understand the relationship between humans and the world in which we live. Environmental science builds upon exposure to other sciences. This course provides an overview of topics including ecology, the biosphere, land, forests and soil, water, energy and resources, and societies and policy. Some of the goals of the course include understanding how systems in the natural world are interconnected; examining the natural cycles of energy flow and evaluating how human interaction affects these cycles; modeling real-world situations and recognizing possible consequences of specific actions; exploring the best choices to protect the environment with changing trends in human population and interpreting evidence and learning to report on environmental conditions and hazards.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. In this course students will cultivate their understanding of environmental science through lectures, interactive activities and inquiry-based labs. Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry are prerequisites for this course. This is a college level course and students may choose to take the AP exam.

HONORS PHYSICS
Physics provides a conceptual and algebra-based exposure to the fundamental principles and processes of the physical world. Topics include basic concepts of motion, forces, energy, electricity, and waves. Proportional reasoning, estimating, and graphing skills are emphasized throughout the course. Overall goals of this course include students' gaining an appreciation for the physical world, improved critical
thinking and reasoning skills, and improved scientific literacy. “C” or better or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II is required.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

WORLD HISTORY
This class will cover world history on a broad scale first by focusing on specific regions then expanding to understanding connectivity and globalism. After this course, students will understand that the history of one nation state is not sufficient as history must be understood as global history. This course will cover topics including Geography, regions (Oceania, Asia, South America, North America, Euroasia), globalized power (trade, empire, integration, culture, world warfare), and globalism in the modern era (Industrial age and on).

HONORS WORLD HISTORY
This class provides an academically rigorous approach to world history. Students will explore ancient civilizations in order to understand the geographic, political, economic, and social characteristics of people. By developing their understanding of the past, students can better understand the present and determine their direction for the future. This course will cover topics including Geography, regions (Oceania, Asia, South America, North America, Euroasia), globalized power (trade, empire, integration, culture, world warfare), and globalism in the modern era (Industrial age and on). Advanced courses require a greater demand on students through increased academic rigor. Academic rigor is obtained through the application, analysis, evaluation, and creation of complex ideas that are often abstract and multi-faceted. Students are challenged to think and collaborate critically on the content they are learning. Honors level rigor will be achieved by increasing text complexity through text selection, focus on high-level qualitative measures, and complexity of task. Instruction will be structured to give students a deeper understanding of conceptual themes and organization within and across disciplines. Academic rigor is more than simply assigning to students a greater quantity of work.

U.S. HISTORY
This course consists of the following content area strands: United States History, Geography, and Humanities. The primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of United States history from Reconstruction to the present day. Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events which influenced the development of the United States and the resulting impact on world history. So that students can clearly see the relationship between cause and effect in historical events, students should have the opportunity to review those fundamental ideas and events which occurred before the end of Reconstruction.
HONORS U.S. HISTORY
The Honors United States History course contains the four content area strands: United States History, Geography, and Humanities. Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events which influenced the development of the United States and the resulting impact on world history. So that students can clearly see the relationship between cause and effect in historical events, students should have the opportunity to review those fundamental ideas and events which occurred before the end of Reconstruction. Advanced courses require a greater demand on students through increased academic rigor. Academic rigor is obtained through the application, analysis, evaluation, and creation of complex ideas that are often abstract and multi-faceted. Students are challenged to think and collaborate critically on the content they are learning. Honors level rigor will be achieved by increasing text complexity through text selection, focus on high-level qualitative measures, and complexity of task. Instruction will be structured to give students a deeper understanding of conceptual themes and organization within and across disciplines. Academic rigor is more than simply assigning to students a greater quantity of work.

CIVICS & AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
This course offers an overview of the American political system by focusing on topics such as foundations and ideologies of government, constitutionality, separation of power, landmark decisions, Federal/State/Local differences and interactions, duties and responsibilities of citizens and policy makers, outside influences, and rights and current violations of rights. In this course students will also learn how to be involved in government and how to apply their interests beyond discussion.

HONORS CIVICS & AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
This course offers an overview of the American political system by focusing on topics such as foundations and ideologies of government, constitutionality, separation of power, landmark decisions, Federal/State/Local differences and interactions, duties and responsibilities of citizens and policy makers, outside influences, and rights and current violations of rights. In this course students will also learn how to be involved in government and how to apply their interests beyond discussion. Advanced courses require a greater demand on students through increased academic rigor. Academic rigor is obtained through the application, analysis, evaluation, and creation of complex ideas that are often abstract and multi-faceted. Students are challenged to think and collaborate critically on the content they are learning. Honors level rigor will be achieved by increasing text complexity through text selection, focus on high-level qualitative measures, and complexity of task. Instruction will be structured to give students a deeper understanding of conceptual themes and organization within and across disciplines. Academic rigor is more than simply assigning to students a greater quantity of work.

PSYCHOLOGY
This course surveys the subfields, disciplines, and related studies to the far-reaching field of psychology.
Examining its extent as both a natural and social science, students will explore biological bases of behavior, sociocultural theories, and models of learning in both typical and abnormal individuals. Furthermore, students will trace the progression of the field’s history and become acquainted with the predominant methodological means utilized to conduct research. This course will culminate in a student-driven research proposal/project.

**AP EUROPEAN HISTORY**

AP European History is designed to teach students relevant and factual knowledge about Europe’s impact on global history from 1450 through the present while preparing students for the AP European History Exam and simultaneously meeting the Pennsylvania State standards for World History. Students will develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: arguments; analyzing primary and secondary sources; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. This is a college level course and students may choose to take the AP exam.

**AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

AP United States Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project. This is a college level course and students may choose to take the AP exam.

**AP U.S. HISTORY**

This course explores American History from Reconstruction to the present. Students will examine primary and secondary resources in order to develop analytical skills. Topics being covered will vary from social to political and economic changes that were significant to the development of the United States. Students should be able to explain how events occurring after the Civil War have affected the United States and Pennsylvania.

**AP WORLD HISTORY**

AP World History is the study of the cultural, economic, political, and social developments that have shaped the world from c. 1200 CE to the present. You’ll analyze texts, visual sources, and other historical evidence and write essays expressing historical arguments. Topics include, but are not
limited to, the global tapestry, networks of exchange, land-based empires, transoceanic interconnections, revolutions, consequences of industrialization, global conflict, cold war and decolonization and globalization.

HEALTH & WELLNESS COURSES

FITNESS 9-12
This is an overall balanced exercise course that includes stretching, cardio, core strength, agility, coordination, and cool downs. It teaches proper technique and progression through appropriate exercises and use of music. Students will keep a journal of class progress. A variety of activities will be incorporated, such as aerobics, weights, toning, stations, walking, fitness games, and group involvement.

HEALTH 9-12
This course provides students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to achieve and maintain a physically active and healthy life. Students will address health-related topics including relationships, dating violence, nutrition, mental wellness, illegal drugs, reproduction, contraception, and sexually transmitted infections. Students must take and pass this course as a graduation requirement.

YOGA 9-12
Yoga is a physical, mental, and spiritual practice of disciplines. The benefits include stretching, breath relaxation, control, and core strength. Daily meditation quotes are presented.

SEMINAR COURSES

FRESHERMAN SEMINAR 9
Freshman Seminar is a mandatory course for all freshmen. The course is broken into three main categories: Skills and Enhancement, Career, and Culture and Outreach. Skills and Enhancement lessons will focus on learning and strengthening skills that will help students be successful in and beyond school. Lessons include basic school policies, public speaking skills, mental health services, and managing Google apps. The Career portion uses Xello to explore students’ interest for post graduation careers with
collaboration from the Guidance Counselors. The last section of Freshman Seminar is Culture and Outreach. Lessons in this bracket will center around learning about and appreciating different cultures, customs, and local agencies including, Hispanic Heritage Month, Indigenous Peoples’ Day, and local non-profit organizations.

**SENIOR SEMINAR 12**

This course complements the course work of seniors within their art major course of study. This course also explores college and/or career readiness for High School Seniors, as well as guidance and support of students in creating and presenting their capstone projects. Capstone projects are culminating projects to demonstrate their skills and abilities acquired throughout their art major. Students will create post-secondary goals and work toward developing a plan to achieve them including but not limited to: College and scholarship applications, personal portfolios, resumes, and personal statements.

**WORLD LANGUAGE COURSES**

**SPANISH I 9-12**

In this course, the student is introduced to the target language and cultural elements. The basic skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking are emphasized and developed. Basic grammatical concepts are learned, pronunciation in the target language is emphasized, and essential vocabulary is utilized.

**SPANISH II 9-12**

The skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking are further developed. This course strives to further cultivate interest in the cultures associated with the language being studied, through deepened and enhanced cultural materials. A higher level of grammar and vocabulary is studied through an introduction to films, magazine articles, short stories, and poems. Successful completion of Spanish I is a prerequisite for this course.

**SPANISH III 9-12**

The skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking are enhanced and further developed. Higher level readings, compositions, and conversations are an integral part of the class. All basic verb tenses are studied and the frequency and intensity of new vocabulary is in direct correlation to a more advanced course. Successful completion of Spanish II is a prerequisite for this course.
## ART PROGRAMS

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OVERVIEW OF ART MAJORS:

DIGITAL ARTS

Course Sequence:

Year 1: Foundations of Digital Arts I
- Digital Arts Orientation
- Drawing I
- Digital Drawing I
- Photoshop I
- Graphic Communication
- Fundamentals of Photography
- Animation Principles
- Advanced Photoshop Manipulation

Year 2: Foundations of Digital Arts II:
- 3D Modeling I
- Animation I
- Adobe Illustrator I
- Graphic Design Lab I
- Typography I
- Digital Photography I
- Adobe Illustrator II
- Adobe Premiere I

Year 3: Digital Arts Level 3
- Advanced Typography
- Digital Media I
- Digital Photography II
- 3D Modeling II
- Graphic Illustration
- Graphic Design Lab II
- Type Image and Motion
- Lighting and Audio

Year 4: Digital Arts Level 4
- Special Effects I
- Publishing Design I
- Character Design
- Independent Study Project (ISP) - may span one or two semesters
- Special Effects II
- Publishing Design II
- Video Editing

Digital Arts - Elective Courses for DA Majors Only
- Filmmakers
- Stop Motion Animation
LITERARY ARTS

Course Sequence:

**Year 1:** Literary Arts - Foundations I*

**Year 2:** Literary Arts - Foundations II*
*1st and 2nd Year students are scheduled to take class together.

**Year 3:** Literary Arts - Specialization III - Poetry, Fiction, (Creative) Non-Fiction

**Year 4:** Literary Arts - Specialization IV - Poetry, Fiction, (Creative) Non-Fiction

**LA Poetry Specialization**

**Year 3:** Poetic Interpretation: A Visual and Verbal Analysis - 1 sem
Spoken Word: Poetry as Performance - 1 sem
Literary Theory & Cultural Studies - full year

**Year 4:** Poetry Study: Movements and Time Periods - 1 sem
Poet Focus: Analyzing Style - 1 sem
Literary Arts Senior Workshop - full year

**LA Fiction Specialization**

**Year 3:** Genre Study (Rotating) - 1 sem
Creating a Fictional World: The Nuances of Worldbuilding - 1 sem
Literary Theory & Cultural Studies - full year

**Year 4:** Character Development, Dialogue, and Psychology - 1 sem
Advanced Fiction Writing - 1 sem
Literary Arts Senior Workshop - full year

**LA (Creative) Non-Fiction Specialization**

**Year 3:** Introduction to Journalism - 1 sem
Creative Nonfiction: Forms and Application - 1 sem
Literary Theory & Cultural Studies - full year

Year 4:
- Rhetoric & Writing - 1 sem
- Research & Investigation - 1 sem
- Literary Arts Senior Workshop - full year

Literary Arts - Elective Courses for LA Majors Only (grades 10-12)
- Literature & Social Justice
- The Editorial Process
- Professional Writing and Media Writing

Literary Arts - Electives for All Students:
- Creative Writing Workshop (asynchronous)
- Mythology and Literature
- Feminist Literature & Theory (need teacher approval)
- Graphic Novel Exploration - (in collaboration with Studio Arts) - Coming Soon!
- Children’s Literature: Writing to Promote Child Development (in collaboration with Studio Arts) - Coming Soon!

STUDIO ARTS

Course Sequence:

Year 1
- Studio Arts - Foundations - 1st year students (despite grade level must complete)
  - Studio Arts Orientation
  - Principles and Elements of Design
  - World Cultures Arts & Crafts

Year 2:
- Studio Arts Level 1 - 4 quarterly Level I courses:
  - Drawing I
  - Sculpture I
  - Printmaking I
  - Painting I
Year 3: Studio Arts Level 2 - 4 quarterly courses:
  - Drawing II
  - Sculpture II
  - Printmaking II
  - Painting II

Year 4: Studio Arts Level 3 - students will take an Advanced course in their chosen medium.
Year 4 students will also take the following semester courses:
  - Industry Essentials & Portfolio Prep
  - Exhibitions Preparation

Studio Arts - Semester Elective (Advanced) Courses for SA Majors Only
(must be a Studio Arts Year 4 student)
  - Advanced Painting
  - Advanced Drawing
  - Advanced Printmaking

Coming Soon:
  - Advanced Ceramics
  - Advanced Sculpture
  - Breaking the Mold!

Studio Arts - Electives for All Students:
  - AP Art History
  - Art Appreciation - Mixed Media
  - Art History & Critique (asynchronous)
  - Drawing & Painting for non majors
DANCE

Course Sequence:

**Year 1:**  Dance - Level 1* or Level 2*
All 3 dance styles are taught throughout the year (total of 2 credits). In addition, students are required to participate in one mandatory performance

- Ballet 1 or 2 - full year
- Modern 1 or 2 - full year
- Jazz Technique 1 or 2 - full year
- Dance History and Terminology - sem course
- Conditioning or Yoga - sem course

**Year 2:**  Dance - Level 1* or Level 2*
All 3 dance styles are taught throughout the year (total of 2 credits). In addition, students are required to participate in one mandatory performance

- Ballet 1 or 2 - full year
- Modern 1 or 2 - full year
- Jazz Technique 1 or 2 - full year
- Improvisation 10 -sem course
- Conditioning or Yoga -sem course

**Year 3:**  Dance - Level 1* or Level 2*
All 3 dance styles are taught throughout the year (total of 2 credits). In addition, students are required to participate in one mandatory performance

- Ballet 1 or 2 - full year
- Modern 1 or 2 - full year
- Jazz Technique 1 or 2 - full year
- Improvisation 11 - sem course
- Conditioning or Yoga - sem course
Year 4: Dance - Level 1* or Level 2*
All 3 dance styles are taught throughout the year (total of 2 credits). In addition, students are required to participate in one mandatory performance

- Ballet 1 or 2 - full year
- Modern 1 or 2 - full year
- Jazz Technique 1 or 2 - full year
- Student Choreography - sem course
- Senior Seminar - sem course

*NOTE: Core Placement and Level will be determined by entrance evaluative activities:
1 = beginner/intermediate level
2 = intermediate/advanced level

Dance students do not have to take PE each year. Must take Health once during 9-12 grades.

Dance - Semester Elective Courses for Dance Majors Only
- Tap
- Contemporary/Improvisational
- Hip Hop Dance
MUSIC

INSTRUMENTAL Course Sequence:

Year 1:
- Instrumental Ensemble (1 period - both semesters)
- Music Literacy 1 (1 sem)
- Music Literacy 2 (1 sem)
- Introduction to Piano (1 sem)

Year 2:
- Instrumental Ensemble (1 period - both semesters)
- Music Literacy 3 (1 sem)
- Music Literacy 4 (1 sem)
- Music Electives (1 credit)

Year 3:
- Chamber Ensemble (2 periods - both semesters)
  Music Electives (1.5 credits)

Year 4:
- Chamber Ensemble (2 periods - both semesters)
  Music Electives (3.5 credits)

VOCAL Course Sequence:

Year 1:
- Vocal Music Ensemble (both semesters)
- Introduction to Piano
- Music Literacy 1
- Music Literacy 2

Year 2:
- Vocal Music Ensemble (both semesters)
- Music Literacy 3
- Music Literacy 4
- Music Electives (1 credit)

Year 3:
- Vocal Music Ensemble (both semesters)
- Vocal Repertoire & Performance Practices (both semesters)
- Music Electives (1½ credits)
Year 4: Vocal Music Ensemble (both semesters)
      Vocal Repertoire & Performance Practices (both semesters)
      Music Electives (3½ credits)

Music - Elective Courses REQUIRED for Music Majors
      Intro to Piano
      21st Century Techniques in Music
      Music History

Music - Elective Courses open ONLY to Music Majors
      Choral Conducting - Prerequisite: Music Literacy 4
      Composition, Songwriting & Analysis - Prerequisite: Music Literacy 4
      Instrumental Conducting - Prerequisite: Music Literacy 4
      Instrumental Techniques 1
      Instrumental Techniques 2

Music - Electives for All Students:
      AP Music Theory (1 credit) Prerequisite: Music Literacy 4
      Instrumental Ensemble
      Introduction to Piano
      Music History 1 - MANDATORY FOR MUSIC MAJORS
      Music History 2 - MANDATORY FOR MUSIC MAJORS
      Music Literacy 1 - MANDATORY FOR MUSIC MAJORS
      Music Literacy 2 - MANDATORY FOR MUSIC MAJORS
      Music Literacy 3 - MANDATORY FOR MUSIC MAJORS
      Music Literacy 4 - MANDATORY FOR MUSIC MAJORS
MUSICAL THEATRE

Course Sequence:

**Year 1:**
- Introduction to Acting (1 sem)
- Acting 1 (1 sem)
- Ballet (1 Sem)
- Ballet or Jazz (1 Sem)
- Introduction to Piano (or Satisfactory Score on Proficiency Exam)
- Music Literacy 1 (or Satisfactory Score on Proficiency Exam)

**Year 2:**
- Acting 2 (1 sem)
- Acting Through Song 1 (1 sem)
- MT Jazz (1 sem)
- Jazz/ Ballet (1 sem)
- Musical Theatre Ensemble Skills (1 sem)
- Stagecraft (1 sem)
- Musical Theatre Studio Coaching (students assigned to a group - one group per sem)
- Elective (½ credit)

**Year 3:**
- Theatre History (1sem)
- Acting Through Song 2
- Dance Elective
- MT Dance Styles
- College Audition Prep - MT (Suggested Elective)
- Audition Techniques and Professional Practices
- Musical Theatre Book Building Studio
- Private Coaching

**Year 4:**
- Senior Repertoire/College Advisory
- Senior Showcase (Seminar)
- Advanced Acting (Heightened Language and Dialects)
Movement for the Actor
Dance Elective
Dance Elective
Elective courses (4 credits)

**Musical Theatre - Elective Courses open ONLY to MT/Theatre Majors**

- Musical Theatre Studio Coaching (MT Priority)
- Musical Theatre Book Building Studio (MT Priority)
- Private Coaching (MT Priority)
- College Audition Prep - MT

**Musical Theatre - Elective Courses open to ALL Students**

Students may apply for admission into any of the Musical Theatre electives; however musical theatre majors will get priority when it comes to scheduling as it is part of their major. We are always open to allowing other majors to take classes in the department if there is space in the course!

**THEATRE**

**Course Sequence:**

**Year 1:**
- Introduction to Acting (sem course)
- Theatre History 1/Stagecraft (2 sem courses = 1 credit)
- Stage Movement or Dance class (sem course)

**Year 2:**
- Modern Contemporary Drama (1 credit)
- Acting 1 (sem course)
- Introduction to Dance (sem course)
- Elective (sem course)

**Year 3:**
- Fundamentals of Directing (sem course)
- Theatre History II (sem course)
- Acting II (sem course)
- Fitness or Dance (sem course)
Elective (sem course)

Year 4:
- TA Senior Seminar - paired with Senior Seminar (1.5 credits)
- Fundamentals of Play Structure & Playwriting (sem course)
- Acting III (sem course)
- Fitness or Dance (sem course)
- Elective courses (3.5 credits)

Theatre - Elective Courses open ONLY to MT/Theatre Majors
- Directing II (sem course)
- Professional Aspects (sem course)

Theatre - Electives for All Students:
- Script Analysis/Dramatic Criticism (sem course)
- Introduction to Theatrical Design (sem course)
- Styles of Theatre (sem course)
- Introduction to Acting (sem course)
ART COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DIGITAL ARTS COURSES:

3D Modeling I
This course is an introduction to Blenders interface and modeling aids, with a focus on creating models with a few crucial building techniques. You will gain an understanding of the key features within the program, learn to leverage their workflow, and employ best practices in modeling complex objects from just a few commands within the program.

Note: Prior 3D modeling experience is not required. This course is taught on Mac and PC platforms.

3D Modeling II
This course provides a comprehensive survey of digital sculpting. Students will learn the methodologies to properly model and texture a creature asset fit for production in a VFX pipeline; Maya and Mari/Substance Painter will also be taught as they complement this workflow.

Advanced Photoshop Manipulation
Building on the Adobe Photoshop I course, this course focuses on more advanced aspects of this industry-standard image editing software through projects that explore vector-based clipping masks for crisp edged transparency for print, gradient masks for smooth layer transitions utilized in all sophisticated editing techniques, and "Actions" for building automated processes. These multilayered subtractive processes serve to separate the Photoshop professionals from the hobbyists, and give the user pixel-perfect control of their image-editing environment.

Prerequisite: Photoshop I

Adobe Illustrator I
Get ready to flex your vector graphics muscles with Adobe Illustrator! Whether you are a complete beginner or have been trying to learn Illustrator on your own, this class is for you. Illustrator is essential when creating unique images and graphics that require a high degree of precision and scalability—allowing an artist control of images as small as a bottle cap or as large as a billboard. Since the workflow is vector-based, curves do not pixelate as they do in other graphics applications. In this course, you'll learn all the fundamentals to create illustrations and freeform sketches as you explore how this program makes it possible to work from both sketch and photo references. You'll "learn by making" with targeted exercises and projects completed as homework. We'll also discuss saving and output options, and how Illustrator files connect to the larger world of print and digital design.
Adobe Illustrator II
Fluency in vector drawing using Adobe Illustrator is bound to add depth to your portfolio and broaden your marketability in today's competitive design economy. You'll build on your existing familiarity with Adobe Illustrator to undertake graphic illustration projects in a structured step-by-step format. This class will delve into ways to customize and add depth to your work. In this course, we'll customize brushes, symbols and more, play with perspective, create repeating patterns, and learn about dielines, printing and packaging. You'll have an opportunity to focus on an art style you like and figure out how to create that with Illustrator's tools, and we'll discuss how you can use the program to achieve your artistic or career goals, whatever those might be! You'll wrap up the course having demonstrated competency in this essential digital design workflow.

Adobe Premiere I
Adobe Premiere Pro is a video editing program that is part of the Adobe Creative Cloud software collection, as well as Adobe CS6 – or Adobe Creative Suite. Premiere Pro is used to edit videos, including movies, and is quickly becoming the go-to program for filmmakers all over the world, both amateur and pro. In fact, both CNN and the BBC use Premiere Pro for editing purposes. This course will teach you how to successfully use Premiere Pro, no matter if you have ever used the program before or not. Both the beginner and seasoned user can benefit from this course, starting with the basics of the program including navigation and continuing on to more advanced features.

Advanced Typography
Advances in software and hardware have created new opportunities for how language is written, sequenced and accessed. Projects in this semester depend on altered states, where the content, composition, and context all are potentially at play. Students will continue to develop proficiency in designing for static compositions while extending the meaning and voice of that work across multiple platforms. Students will have ample opportunity to further shape their perspective and individual voice in relation to contemporary typography. This is a studio course, so some class time will be used for discussions, most of the time we will be working in class, often on a computer. There is an expectation that students work both individually and in groups and be prepared to speak about their own work and the work of their peers in supportive and respectful ways.

Animation I
Deepen your skills as you learn complex animation skills including lip sync, character interaction, and environmental design with motion. We will look at examples of animation storytelling so that students understand the many ways characters and environments interact. 2D animation workflow best practices are reinforced in every lesson and you will complete the course with multiple animated projects appropriate for use in a professional portfolio of animation material.
Animation Principles

Animation is a unique art form combining static images (usually drawings) and storytelling. These sequential images are put together to create the illusion of motion, much like a flipbook. This course introduces students to the core principles of cycles, levels, and squash and stretch as they start to turn their inanimate drawings into moving, dancing and flying animations. The use of analog and digital tools will be covered, as well as workflow implementation, including the mechanics of sequencing distinct drawings so that they flow together. Skill building exercises allow students to investigate and experiment with principles. By the end of the course students will complete a short movie, built frame by frame, and gain artistic confidence.

Character Design

This course focuses primarily on hand-drawn character design, development, and movement. Beginning with simple model sheets drawn from different points of view, we explore how action and context can affect the design of characters. The same characters are then taken straight into animation. Students use the characters they created as actors who must perform in a variety of situations, and interact directly with the physical space around them. Exercises include walk cycles, lip-syncing, anticipation and follow-through, weight and resistance, and lessons in narrative, storyboarding, and drawing skills. A longer, three-week final project provides an opportunity for students to show what they have learned, and to create a cohesive story from start to finish.

Digital Arts Orientation

This course explores computer based image-making and printing technologies. Through the investigation of various printing materials, students will have the opportunity to produce two and three-dimensional projects using contemporary methods. Students will gain hands-on experience with digital drawing tools, photographic and graphic designs using image based software while learning about the formal elements and principles of design. Art theory and practice will be presented in conversation with lectures and peer review. Professional artists and designers using these processes in their work will be highlighted in the course.

Digital Drawing I

Get ready to flex your vector graphics muscles with Adobe Illustrator! Whether you are a complete beginner or have been trying to learn Illustrator on your own, this class is for you. Illustrator is essential when creating unique images and graphics that require a high degree of precision and scalability—allowing an artist control of images as small as a bottle cap or as large as a billboard. Since the workflow is vector-based, curves do not pixelate as they do in other graphics applications. In this
course, you'll learn all the fundamentals to create illustrations and freeform sketches as you explore how this program makes it possible to work from both sketch and photo references. You'll "learn by making" with targeted exercises and projects completed as homework. We'll also discuss saving and output options, and how Illustrator files connect to the larger world of print and digital design.

**Digital Media I**

Explore the interdisciplinary relationship between imaging, coding, text, animation and video that come together as the designer’s toolkit. This fast-paced digital media course is ideal for the novice or even the intermediate user desiring a better understanding of computer-based workflow. A single unified web design project, built over multiple sessions, is broken down into manageable lessons that include bitmap editing, vector graphics, page layout, image capture, preservation and manipulation. The terminology, protocols and connections between products are made clear as you become familiar with the techniques necessary for anyone who designs digitally. The following are covered: Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.

**Digital Photography I**

Photography plays an important role in the field of graphic design -- within publications, posters, electronic media, etc. Because of the camera's availability and fairly inexpensive cost, photography has become one of the most popular hobbies in the world. In possession of such a device, the average person is not entirely aware of certain image manipulations and other concepts used by the graphic designer. This course also introduces designers to the lighting studio and the many uses of the camera in creating design artifacts.

**Drawing I**

Students begin learning to define shapes and forms with line: investigating weight, direction and speed through gesture and contour. Then moving on to value, using both additive and reductive ways of working, they learn to utilize the power of light and dark to create a sense of texture, volume and space. Spatial systems, including perspective, are investigated as well as fundamentals of composition to construct dynamic imagery. Measuring and attention to negative space are essential skills used and reinforced throughout the learning process. Transcribing what is seen or imagined into visual form utilizing multiple approaches -- from note taking to rendering to diagramming and sketching -- is explored. The course is structured around demonstrations, guided exercises, and sustained drawing of varied subject matter including still-life, landscape, architecture and the human form.
Filmmakers

Advanced Cinematic Motion is an advanced level transdisciplinary studies film course. Students from Film, Motion Graphics and Motion Illustration collaborate to create unique narrative solutions. The course will teach how to produce live-action green screen shoots and the proper methods of post-production development. Faculty will teach unique perspectives from a designer, director and a cinematographer's point of view.

Fundamentals of Photography

Photography is often described as equal parts science and art. Photographers help us see the world in new ways – documenting, representing, contextualizing and/or interpreting objects, people, places, situations or occurrences through distinct lenses. The core certificate engages students in exploring the principles of design to be able to construct considered, meaningful and impactful images. Subsequent learning includes focused technical learning and practice with a camera: seeing through a lens, digital technology, lighting, post-processing and archival printing. Skill Development: Camera skills; Digital photography; Lighting; Digital editing / post-processing; Archival photo printing. Prerequisites: D.A.O, Drawing I, Photoshop I

Graphic Design Lab I

This is a course in designing and identifying graphic communication for packaging structures. We will experiment with different 3D templates, examining their structures and then using type, color and images on these prototypes in three dimensions.

Graphic Design Lab II

This senior studio course will build upon the skills from Graphic Design Lab I Advanced use of materials, interactive branding and spatial/environmental retail skills will be implemented. The final deliverable will be portfolio-quality.

Graphic Illustration

The poster has been an archetypal graphic design format since the late 19th century when lithographic printing technology came of age and captured the imagination of artists, bringing their vision into Paris streets. This course will invite you to explore future possibilities and contexts for the poster-as paper and as screen-building on its singular capacity to transform ideas into iconic picture planes; and examining the dynamics of typography and image, both still and in motion. Prompts will progress from individual posters, to sequences, to site-specific installations that explore the potential for interactive discourse in public space.
Studio assignments will be supported with presentations and readings about poster history and contemporary poster design.

**Graphic Communication**
A graphic designer is a creative problem solver who conceptualizes, plans and executes a design that communicates a message. This course introduces students to the fundamentals of working in the field of graphic design by examining its meaning, the design process and the role of the graphic designer in society. Students engage in various methods of critical thinking and making through hands-on exercises and projects.

**Independent Study Project (ISP) - Year 4 only**
The Independent Study Project (ISP) allows students to supplement the established curriculum by completing a faculty supervised project for credit in a specific area of interest. Its purpose is to meet individual student needs by providing an alternative to regularly offered courses. Permission of Instructor and an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher is required.

**Lighting and Audio**
This course will focus on basic lighting techniques and principles that will provide students with the skills necessary to feel comfortable in a variety of lighting situations. Students will not only gain an understanding of how light can be manipulated and controlled but also how it can be used to communicate information.

**Photoshop I**
Bitmap editing is an image editing technique commonly used in the fields of photography, graphic design, illustration and web design. This course presents workflow using Adobe Photoshop, unleashing the power of bitmap editing using nonlinear and nondestructive methods as much as possible. Lesson topics include layer masks and effects, smart objects, adjustment layers, clipping masks and reverse editing methods to create the most subtle and professional edits to files. Complete color modification, damage repair, digital make-up techniques, and complex graphic compositing are among the exercises that come together in a final project that demonstrates competency with Adobe Photoshop. No prerequisite required.

**Publishing Design I**
This course is for advanced students, 4th term, and has as its ultimate objective the production of a viable chapbook / zine. During the course of the semester, students will not only need to design and produce a book, Course Objectives Emphasize the dynamic relationship between the meaning of text
and its graphic representation. Explore the origins of a particular text as a method of learning how to begin to discover "meaning" in a literary work. Begin to make solid connections between the graphic and the literary arts.

**Publishing Design II**

This course is for advanced students, 4th term, and has as its ultimate objective the production of a viable chapbook / zine. During the course of the semester, students will not only need to design and produce a book, Course Objectives Emphasize the dynamic relationship between the meaning of text and its graphic representation. Explore the origins of a particular text as a method of learning how to begin to discover "meaning" in a literary work. Begin to make solid connections between the graphic and the literary arts.

**Special Effects I**

This course builds on the students knowledge of design, sculpting, molding, painting materials and techniques. Traditionally, in the realm of modern prosthetic make-ups, foam latex has been the most common go to material, an industry standard since the 1930’s. Students are introduced to the chemical components and mixing procedures as well as how to bake (cure) foam latex in a special oven. On the application side, we learn how to make acrylic adhesive paint mixtures, how they are applied and removed. By handling samples, seeing demo applications and, finally, doing practical application, students become adept at the many techniques for best applying and painting foam latex. Building towards their Term Five practical exam, students will design, sculpt, mold and then run those molds with foam latex in order to make prosthetics appliances resulting in a fantastical character.

**Special Effects II**

Silicone introduces the student to this versatile material that can be used in various forms for casting, molding and fabricated prosthetics. Partial face casts using silicone will be done so students can create a nose cast on which they sculpt a different character nose. They will also use silicone to create negative molds for the bondo prosthetics they sculpt. Eventually, students will learn the formulas and how to run silicone to produce an encapsulated, gel filled prosthetic nose that they will apply. The students will further hone and refine their sculpting, painting and application skills.

**Stop Motion Animation**

This course will offer skill development in the use of software to develop storyboards and Stop Motion animation including creating, importing and sequencing media elements to create multimedia presentations. Emphasis will be on conceptualization, creativity, and visual aesthetics. This course takes the students through various aspects of Stop Motion animation using a variety of materials and
techniques. Developing concepts, storyboarding and production of several stop motion animations will be accomplished.

**Type Image and Motion**

We stand firmly planted in a visual world, surrounded by a universe of things to look at. Images flicker from televisions, iPads, computer monitors and more—as large as towering billboards and as small as compact cell phones. Such images provide us with clues about our environment, feeding our mind with information that we find useful for survival or for orientation purposes. But these very same images clutter the horizon and prevent us from discerning what is truly important. How do we tell them apart? The primary goal is to equip students with the skills necessary to create meaningful and intelligent images. Course content is tailored for three levels of experience—introductory, intermediate and advanced. Some of the class projects include documentary photography, film title design and music video. The works of Saul Bass, Bill Viola and Michel Gondry will be used as the "textbooks" for this course. Readings, film screenings and listening exercises accompany studio work.

**Typography I**

This course focuses on the micro details of typography—the minute and specific details of how type is designed. From letters to words to lines of type, students learn how the elements of typography influence both the legibility and readability of a text. Topics include the analysis of letterforms, typographic measurement, typeface classification and the setting and formatting of type.

*Prerequisites:* D.A.O, Drawing I, Photoshop I, Adobe I, Graphic Communication

**Video Editing**

In this course, students will engage in a thorough technical and conceptual walkthrough of post-production techniques, with an emphasis on editing and sound design, managing projects, color grading, and deliverable design. By reflecting on the possibilities embedded in the filmed material, we will explore editing as a generative process that can clarify themes within a piece and shape or even reimagine its structure. We will explore editing strategies that focus on the visual and conceptual forces at play when shots come together, transform each other and create new meanings. Students should be familiar with production terminology and methods, cameras, and digital video and audio.
LITERARY ARTS COURSES

Advanced Fiction Writing
This is a ½ credit (1 semester) course for Literary Arts majors who are in Fiction Specialization IV. Students will create original content to be developed into a novel; identify different methods and organization tactics when writing a novel; implement character, setting, and plot in a cohesive manner; and create drafts and manuscripts of a novel or short story.

Character Development, Dialogue and Psychology
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) course for Literary Arts majors who are in Fiction Specialization IV. Students will analyze character psychology and different types of personalities; analyze the way people speak in different settings across time periods; identify different types of relationship dynamics and emulate them in writing; write different types of characters who have different functions in plot; and analyze actions and reactions of people with different personalities.

Children’s Literature: Writing to Promote Child Development
In collaboration with Studio Arts - Literary Arts elective course open to all students - 1 semester course (Coming soon!)

Creating a Fictional World: The Nuances of Worldbuilding
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Fiction Specialization III course. Students will learn how to compare the benefits of soft worldbuilding vs. hard world building; identify scenarios that would benefit either soft or hard world building; identify worldbuilding in literature and popular media; create a fictional world where an original story takes place; and create cultures, characters, and believable scenarios that take place in a fictional world.

Creative Nonfiction: Forms and Application
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Non-Fiction Specialization III course. Students will explore the different varieties of creative nonfiction, and discuss the applications of each; identify stylistic components of creative nonfiction; analyze the effective language based on audience and intent; write original creative nonfiction; and workshop original pieces of creative nonfiction in a collaborative environment.

Creative Writing Workshop
This is a 1 semester asynchronous Literary Arts elective course open to all students (½ credit). In the Creative Writing Workshop, students will explore various forms of creative writing and collaborate with their peers in a workshop based course. Students will learn the fundamentals of writing workshops and engage in collaborative critique and discussion of student written works.
**Feminist Literature & Theory**
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Literary Arts elective course open to all students. However, students must have approval from the LA teacher to sign up. This course focuses on feminist movements and theory throughout history. Students will learn about the history of feminism, and specifically focus on international feminism. Students will have the opportunity to read short stories and other texts which serve as a cultural commentary on feminist issues around the world.

**Genre Study** (Rotating genres)
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Fiction Specialization III course. Students will learn how to identify tropes of specific literary genres and explain their function; write original stories focused on a specific genre, while utilizing genre tropes analyze the significance of tropes and brainstorm creative new approaches to the genre; read texts from a specific genre (and/or time period) and discuss their commonalities; and workshop fiction in a collaborative setting.

**Graphic Novel Exploration**
*In collaboration with Studio Arts* - Literary Arts elective course open to all students - semester course (Coming soon!)

**Introduction into Journalism**
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Non-Fiction Specialization III course. Students will learn how to define Journalism and discuss its application in media and social culture; write nonfiction stories in a variety of tones, and for a variety of different purposes; identify and analyze resources available to writers; analyze the nuances of reporting; and copy edit writing using professional jargon and symbols.

**Literary Arts - Foundations I & II**
First year and second year Literary Arts students are required to take this course. Students will explore various forms of literature through reading and writing; analyze and interpret texts from different genres and identify tropes; learn about the components of poetry and use poetic vocabulary as well as write original poetry and short fiction. Students will also collaborate with peers in a workshop environment while providing constructive feedback. The course also prepares students to prepare original writing to be published in local, national, and international publications. Students will choose a specialization for study in the Literary Arts program at the conclusion of their foundations course work.

**Literary Arts Senior Workshop**
This is a full year (1 credit) mandatory course for Specialization IV students. All seniors in the Literary Arts program must take this course regardless of specialization. This course will work towards the completion
of the Literary Arts Senior Project. Students will compile original pieces of writing into a logical collection bound for publication; workshop the original writing across genre and style, and provide individualized feedback; design a book that is visually pleasing and easy to read and comprehend; be able to identify publishing and marketing opportunities in the community and nationally; learn how to analyze personal writing style and future writing goals; and be able to publish original writing in local, national, and international publications.

**Literary Theory & Cultural Studies**
This is a full year (1 credit) mandatory course for Specialization III students. All seniors in the Literary Arts program must take this course regardless of specialization. All 11th grade students in the Literary Arts program must take this course regardless of specialization. Students will be able to analyze various bodies of literary theory, and place them within a cultural context; discuss the importance of analyzing cultural phenomenon, and the literary response to it; write research papers on theory and theorists while analyzing complex topics; critique social structures via the lens of literary theory; discuss what it means to be “academic” in the humanities, and discuss the continued importance of understanding literature and its corresponding cultural landscape; and be able to publish original writing in local, national, and international publications.

**Literature & Social Justice**
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) elective course for LA majors only. This course can be taken in grades 10-12. Students will read literature geared towards social justice issues around the world; analyze the impact of literature on social justice issues; discuss international human rights issues; and discuss the ways in which literature can bring attention to human rights and social justice issues.

**Mythology and Literature**
This semester (½ credit) Literary Arts elective course open to all students. Students will learn how to identify and discuss mythologies and their impact on cultures from around the world; analyze the ways in which mythology has shaped culture in certain areas of the world; read world literature and mythology with a focus on the Greeks and Romans; and write mythological adaptations and interpretations.

**Poet Focus: Analyzing Style**
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Poetry Specialization IV course. This course does NOT focus on one specific poet. Rather, it allows students to choose a poet to focus on studying/imitating. Students will analyze the work of a chosen poet, and their unique stylistic qualities; imitate the style of the selected poet; write original poetry imitating the style of the poet; read a variety of poetry, ranging from classical to contemporary; and workshop original writing in a collaborative setting.
Poetic Interpretation: A Visual and Verbal Analysis
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Poetry Specialization III course. Students will learn how to analyze poem layout; define the function of word placement and blank space; construct figurative language that accurately represents a desired effect or emotion; interpret the structure of and devices used by various poets who experimented with form; write poetry that explores the use of the page and figurative language; and workshop poetry in a collaborative setting.

Poetry Study: Movements and Time Periods
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Poetry Specialization IV course. This course examines the evolution of poetry over time. Various poetic movements throughout history will be discussed, and students will identify the traits of those particular movements. The connection between poetry, culture, and time period will be analyzed in depth, as poetry is often a cultural response.

Professional Writing and Media Writing
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) elective for LA majors only. LA students are able to take this course as an elective regardless of specialization. Recommended for Juniors and Seniors. Students will learn how to write for in professional, media, and technical contexts; identify appropriate communication methods via writing and images in a professional environment; identify terminology used in copyediting and proofreading contexts; analyze ways to visually present data to a wide audience; and research new topics and gather data which can be visually displayed.

Rhetoric and Writing
This is a 1 semester course (½ credit) for Non-Fiction Specialization IV students. Students will identify examples of successful rhetoric in history and current events; write a persuasive essay on a topic of a student’s choice; analyze components of a compelling argument; and identify applications of rhetoric in the academic and professional world.

Research & Investigation
This is a 1 semester course (½ credit) for Non-Fiction Specialization IV students. Students will analyze sources and determine their reliability; navigate databases in search of specific information; identify the differences between articles that are peer reviewed and not peer reviewed; develop interview procedures; collect and interpret data; and implement research findings and data in writing.

Spoken Word: Poetry as Performance
This is a 1 semester (½ credit) Poetry Specialization III course. Students will learn how to identify preformative aspects of poetry, and its importance to poetic interpretation; analyze poetry that would function well spoken vs. read; perform poetry while focusing on appropriate pacing, and stressed
The Editorial Process
This is an elective course for LA majors only. This course is 1 semester (½ credit). This course can be scheduled in grades 10-12. Students will learn how to analyze the appropriate stylistic procedures when copyediting; identify the appropriate use of different symbols when copyediting; copyedit the writing of classmates using the industry appropriate symbols and terminology; and write a manuscript and put it in the appropriate format.

STUDIO ARTS COURSES:

AP Art History - Elective - Open to All Majors
This elective course is open to all students. (1 credit). This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Arts History Exam. Students will cover the 250 required works for the exam beginning with prehistory and ending with contemporary works dating from 1980 to today. Students who take this course should be interested in attending Art School or in placing out of entry-level Art History courses at the university level.

Advanced Ceramics - Elective - For Studio Arts Majors only
This course will enable students to further explore ceramics specifically as previously studied in sculpture courses. Coil slab and thrown building techniques will be expanded upon as will glazing methodologies and surface treatments. Sculpture 1 & 2 are prerequisites for this course.

Advanced Drawing - Elective - For Studio Arts Majors only
This course will focus on dry media and conversations about the conventions and definition of drawing. Students will be challenged to work on large scale work and ambitious works with an emphasis on the student finding and defining their personal interests, artistic style and supportive writing and research.

Advanced Painting - Elective - For Studio Arts Majors only
Advanced Painting will focus on wet media (acrylic, watercolor & oils) and conversations about the conventions and definition of drawing. Students will be challenged to work on large scale and ambitious works with an emphasis on the student finding and defining their personal interests, artistic style, and
supportive writing and research.

**Advanced Printmaking - Elective - For Studio Arts Majors only**

Advanced Printmaking will focus on expanding students' understanding of print media of all kinds and stress experimentation, large scale work and an emphasis on the student finding and defining their personal interests, artistic style, and supportive writing and research.

**Advanced Sculpture- Elective - For Studio Arts Majors only**

Advanced Sculpture will expand upon previous sculpture courses and focus on students personal artistic practice in relation to new challenging material. Projects will consider scale, material, form, function, and history. Students will be challenged to work on ambitious works in materials they have experience with as well as be introduced to media. There will be an emphasis on the student finding and defining their personal interests, artistic style, and supportive writing and research.

**Art History & Critique - Elective - Open to All Majors**

This is a survey course that will examine the history of human making from prehistory until today in relation to the environment and culture, through primarily a prehistoric, ancient and non-western context. We will use the lens of objects, maker, and art to better understand ourselves and our contemporary communities.

**Art Appreciation - Mixed Media - Elective - Open to All Majors**

This course is designed to introduce alternative media to students interested in studio art. The principles & elements of art & design will be the baseline for this course. 2D & 3D materials will be used and there will be an emphasis on the student finding exploring personal interests & artistic style.

**Breaking the Mold - Elective - For Studio Arts Majors only**

This course will enable students to further explore sculpture and mold making. Plaster, silicone and clay molds will be used to make original works and multiples. *Sculpture 1 & 2 are prerequisites for this course.*

**Studio Arts Foundations**

Studio Arts Level 1 is the baseline (foundations) of the program and will establish students' understandings needed for the rest of their time at WAA in Studio & Digital Art. This course is designed to introduce the basics of a studio art class including safety, classroom procedures, vocabulary, the principles & elements of art & design, introductory use of 2D & 3D materials and tools as well as begin
the conversation of the historical/cultural context of art. At the end of the year students should submit a portfolio for consideration to be accepted into Foundations 2 for either Digital or Studio Art. Students who do not meet the expectations are placed in a Visual Communications or General Arts Track. Includes elements from the former courses: Studio Arts Orientation; Principles and Elements of Design; and World Cultures Arts & Crafts.

**Studio Arts Level 2**

Studio Arts Level 2 will build upon students baseline skills from SA Foundations 1. In focused semesters, students will touch on **drawing** (perceptive, line weight, value), **painting** (water based media, color theory, texture), **printmaking** (relief, monotype, and collograph) and **sculpture** (mass/volume, relief, sculpture in the round) specifically. Students will be expected to support their work through conversation, presentation, and written supports. Studio Arts Level 2 encompasses elements previously taught as: Drawing I; Painting I; Sculpture I; and Printmaking I.

**Studio Arts Level 3**

This course will build upon students skills from Studio Arts Levels 1 & 2. In focused semesters, students will touch on **drawing** (figure drawing, 3 point perspective, foreshortening), **painting** (oil & water based media, specific explorations or easter & western art history), **printmaking** (relief, intaglio, screen printing) and **sculpture** (installation, modeling, kinetic sculptures) specifically. Students will be expected to support their work through conversation, presentation, and written supports. Studio Arts Level 3 encompasses elements previously taught as: Drawing II; Painting II; Sculpture II; and Printmaking II.

**Studio Arts Level 4**

Studio Arts Level 4 is split into 2 sections by semester. The first part of the year will be focused on professional practices and portfolio prep. Advanced independent study and focus will be supported by research, experimentation. Ambitious and/or large scale work is the expectation. In addition, art professionals and artists will visit to share their inside information and work. Students will work to compile a portfolio for admission to schools/exhibitions or professional review. The second portion of the year is dedicated to preparing for the end of year exhibition (Art Festival) in which each senior will be highlighted. Ambitious and/or large scale work is the expectation. Students will be largely responsible for the planning, installation, and support of the exhibition. Studio Arts Level 4 encompasses elements previously taught as: Industry Essentials; Independent Study; Senior Exhibitions Prep; Drawing III; Sculpture III; Painting III; Printmaking III.

**Breaking the Mold - Elective - For Studio Arts Majors only**

This course will enable students to further explore sculpture and mold making. Plaster, silicone and clay molds will be used to make original works and multiples. **Sculpture 1 & 2 are prerequisites for this course.**
Drawing & Painting for Non SA Majors - Elective - Open to All Majors
This course is designed to introduce 2D media to students interested in studio art. The principles & elements of art & design will be the baseline for this course. Dry and wet media will be used and there will be an emphasis on the student finding exploring personal interests & artistic style.

Graphic Novel Exploration (collab. with Lit. Arts) - Elective - Open to All Majors
This course is designed to facilitate collaboration and multiple skill sets between instructors & students. Over the course of the semester students will conceive of, outline, design & illustrate then bind or publish an original graphic novel. (Coming soon!)

Children’s Literature Writing & Design (collab. with Lit. Arts) - Elective - Open to All Majors
This course is designed to facilitate collaboration and multiple skill sets between instructors & students. Over the course of the semester students will conceive of, outline, design and illustrate then bind or publish an original children's book taking into considerations the psychology and developmental needs of young readers. (Coming soon!)

DANCE COURSES:

Dance (Level 1* or Level 2*)
This core course is for Dance majors only. Students will be placed in a Level 1 or Level 2 designation determined by Dance program placement assessment criteria. This core course consists of the following courses: Ballet 1 or 2, Modern 1 or 2 and Jazz Technique 1 or 2 (all 4 years). This course also includes Dance History and Terminology in Year 1; Improvisation 10 in Year 2; and Improvisation 11 in Year 3. Conditioning or Yoga is also included each year for Years 1-3. In Year 4, this course will include Student Choreography and Senior Seminar. The course descriptions are as follows:

Ballet 1 or 2 - this ballet course work is leveled and progresses from beginner to advanced. As students are promoted from one level to another, they are expected to demonstrate stronger physicality, deeper understanding, and more refined execution of alignment, placement, movement integration, musicality, strength, stability, coordination, balance, and a heightened kinesthetic awareness. The same class structure is utilized for all levels while supporting the achievement of all students, despite individual differences in learning rates and/or prior knowledge and skills. A dancer may remain at the same level for more than one year.
Conditioning - This course provides the dancer with additional work in the areas of flexibility, strength, and stamina. Efforts will be made to work with imbalances and weaknesses that surface during daily work. Cardio, Yoga, and weight training will all be incorporated. Injury prevention is a key focus of conditioning.

Dance History & Terminology - An introductory course to the history of dance and terminology. Students will explore the past by looking at various dancers, dance works and dance literature. Learning terminology will broaden the student’s understanding and skill level.

Dance Senior Seminar - Seniors will prepare, develop and execute your final senior dance project in a specific genre. Seniors will learn the audition process with mock auditions and evaluations to prepare for their future in dance. Discussions, videos, exploring the role and function of dance in your life.

Improvisational 10 & 11 - The dancer is given an opportunity to discover their creative and physical potential. Through structured exercises involving exploration, experimentation, and risk-taking, students are encouraged to add to their movement vocabulary.

Jazz Technique 1 or 2 - This course provides a basic understanding of all jazz techniques. Students will develop a variety of dance skills, both technical and rhythmical. All styles of jazz will be covered through the years such as: Classic jazz, contemporary, jazz funk, etc.

Modern 1 or 2 - Students will study modern and begin their experience by exploring fundamental elements of modern dance with a goal to progress into a versatile, athletic, intuitive modern dancer.

Student Choreography - Students get to participate in the process of creating, rehearsing, and staging a dance for a concert. Students will audition dancers, and participate in all stages of the creative process. Students will present at the end of the semester.

Tap
This is an elective course for dancers. Dancers learn elements of tap dancing and how to connect steps into movement phrases

Contemporary/Improvisation
This is an elective course for dancers. This is a very movement/choreography based genre in which dancers learn phrase work to perform in the class and manipulate/embellish upon with their own personal style.

**Hip-Hop Dance**
This is an elective course for dancers. Dancers learn hard hitting, street/funk choreography to R&B style music. Students are encouraged to have fun by using their personality and attitude, while executing the choreography. This course emphasizes musicality, performance, and dynamics, while motivating students to maintain a positive environment. Students will learn various styles and movements from the past to present. Dancers will work on confidence and clear execution of movement.

## MUSIC COURSES:

### AP Music Theory
This is a 1 credit - full year course. Ideal for students focusing on composition, songwriting, or music theory. Also helpful for students interested in going to college. Open to students who have completed Music Literacy 4.

### Chamber Ensemble
Chamber Ensemble is a 1 credit semester course (double block). It is the advanced Instrumental Ensemble at Westinghouse. Students play music of various genres together as a small ensemble. All 3rd/4th year Instrumental majors participate. This group plays more demanding repertoire than Instrumental Ensemble and moves at a faster pace. This class can (and should) be taken more than once. (Required for year 3 and 4 Instrumental).

### Choral Conducting
This is a ½ credit elective course open to Instrumental and Vocal students. Prerequisite: Music Literacy 4. Ideal for students focusing on conducting or with an interest in music education.

### Composition, Songwriting, and Analysis
This is a ½ credit elective course open to Instrumental students. Prerequisite: Music Literacy 4). This class teaches students about the art of writing and analyzing music. Students are introduced to composition
techniques in various styles, orchestration, and tools of musical analysis. Students compose original works which are workshopped by the instructor and the class. Students are also given the opportunity to hear these works read and sometimes performed. This class can be taken more than once.

**Instrumental Ensemble**

This is a ½ credit course required both semesters for year 1 and year 2 Instrumental students; Elective for year 3 and 4 Instrumental and for non-majors). Instrumental Ensemble is the “band” or “orchestra” of Westinghouse. Students play music of various genres together as a large ensemble. All 1st/2nd year Instrumental majors participate, but the ensemble also consists of Instrumental upperclassmen who choose to continue taking the class and non-instrumental majors who join the group. This class can (and should) be taken more than once. Instrumental students in years 3-4 can take this in addition to Chamber Ensemble if they want to participate in both groups. Ideal for students focusing on performance or conducting. (Open to all students)

**Introduction to Piano**

This is a ½ credit semester course required for Year 1 Instrumental and Vocal students. Intro to Piano will provide students with the chance to learn the fundamentals of playing the piano and basic music theory skills. They will also be equipped with knowledge of how to implement the piano in their own musical practices such as accompanying themselves singing or reading parts on a piano. Students will be provided with individualized instruction based on their current piano skill/knowledge and goals. (Required for Instrumental/Vocal)

**Instrumental Techniques 1**

This is a ½ credit elective course open to Instrumental students; Prerequisites: Music Literacy 1 & 2. In this course, students are introduced to performance practice in various musical styles. Students are exposed to solo repertoire on their instrument, and they work with the instructor to hone their technique through working on this music. Students are encouraged to expand outside their “genre” comfort zone and explore new musical styles to them.

**Instrumental Techniques 2**

This is a ½ credit elective course open to Instrumental students. In this course, students continue learning about performance practice in various musical styles. Students dive into more complicated solo repertoire on their instrument, and they work with the instructor to further hone their technique through working on this music. Students are introduced to techniques of improvisation in various styles and are coached on how to improvise effectively.
**Instrumental Conducting**

This is a ½ credit elective course open to Instrumental. Prerequisite - Music Literacy 4. This class introduces students to the practice of conducting an instrumental ensemble. Students are taught basic conducting patterns, gestures, rehearsal techniques, and consideration for instrumental groups. Students study scores and learn to prepare for conducting by studying the music. Students get the opportunity to conduct one of the WAACS Instrumental Ensembles in class (and potentially in performance).

**Music History 1**

This is a 1 credit course required for Instrumental and Vocal students. Open to all students. Music History I encompasses the entire spectrum of music history, with an emphasis on American popular music of the 20th and 21st centuries. Music History I introduces students to the history, theory, and genres of music, from the most primitive surviving examples through the classical to the most contemporary in the world at large. The course is offered in a two-semester format. The first semester covers primitive musical forms and classical music. The second semester presents the rich modern traditions, including American jazz, gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip-hop. Music History I focuses more on music of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Baroque periods.

**Music History 2**

This is a 1 credit course required for Instrumental and Vocal students. Open to all students. Music History II encompasses the entire spectrum of music history, with an emphasis on American popular music of the 20th and 21st centuries. Music History II introduces students to the history, theory, and genres of music, from the most primitive surviving examples through the classical to the most contemporary in the world at large. The course is offered in a two-semester format. The first semester covers primitive musical forms and classical music. The second semester presents the rich modern traditions, including American jazz, gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip-hop. Music History I focuses more on music of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Baroque periods. Music History II focuses more on music of the Classical and Romantic periods of the 20th and 21st Centuries.

**Music Literacy 1**

This is a ½ credit course required for Instrumental and Vocal students; open to all students. The Music Literacy sequence teaches vocal and instrumental students music theory, aural skills, and general musicianship. Music Literacy 1 focuses on the basics of these skills, such as fundamentals of theory (music reading, intervals, chords, scales), Solfege, and eurythmics. (Required for Instrumental/Vocal)

**Music Literacy 2**
This is a ½ credit course required for Instrumental and Vocal students; open to all students. Prerequisite - Music Literacy 1. The Music Literacy sequence teaches vocal and instrumental students music theory, aural skills, and general musicianship. Music Literacy 2 focuses on building on the basics. Students explore beginning music analysis and part-writing, diatonic harmony, sight-singing, and melodic and rhythmic dictation. (Required for Instrumental/Vocal)

Music Literacy 3
This is a ½ credit course required for Instrumental and Vocal students; open to all students; Prerequisite - Music Literacy 2. The Music Literacy sequence teaches vocal and instrumental students music theory, aural skills, and general musicianship. Music Literacy 3 focuses on more advanced concepts such as non-chord tones, chromaticism, and harmonic dictation. (Required for Instrumental/Vocal)

Music Literacy 4
This is a ½ credit course required for Instrumental and Vocal students; open to all students; Prerequisite - Music Literacy 3. The Music Literacy sequence teaches vocal and instrumental students music theory, aural skills, and general musicianship. Music Literacy 4 is the culmination of 4 semesters of learning. Students learn about advanced chromaticism in written and aural theory. Harmonic dictation becomes more complicated. After taking this course, students are prepared to take AP Music Theory, Composition, Songwriting, and Analysis and 21st Century Techniques in Music. (Required for Instrumental/Vocal)

21st Century Techniques in Music
This is a ½ credit semester course required for Instrumental and Vocal students. This class is primarily a music theory class (with some music history and musicianship) that focuses on musical styles of the 20th and 21st century. Students are introduced to trends and styles in modern music and taught how to understand them and implement them. (Prerequisite - Music Literacy 4)

Vocal Music Ensemble
This is a one credit course intended to develop the skill, knowledge, and attitudes to perform the range of musical styles and genres written for the concert choir ensemble. The choir class is intended to help develop each singer’s vocal ability in a positive environment as well as to present quality performances with a high level of musicianship.

Vocal Repertoire & Performance Practices
This course is for the singer and/or pianist interested in collaborative study of solo vocal performance. Students will gather biographical data and explore art songs, operatic arias, choral masterpieces, and arrangements employing sacred and secular texts. Additionally, students will research and explore pieces
and genres to enhance and develop their current repertoire. The course content will also include best practices related to performance and auditions.

**MUSICAL THEATRE COURSES:**

**Acting Through Song 1**
(Required for MT Graduation) - An introduction of scene-song integration in musical theatre through early 20th century theatre genres. This course will provide students with a solid understanding of music foundations in a dramatic context utilizing both "Golden Age" and "Contemporary" musical theatre as a basis. The course will conclude with Audition technique integration and monologue work will be discussed. **Only offered in the Spring Semester.**

**Acting Through Song 2**
(Required for MT Graduation) - This Course builds on the techniques taught in Acting Through Song 1. Students will learn to identify material that represents them as they are in the present. Students will learn to research Each student will be assigned specific characters from musicals in the American Musical Theatre canon. Emphasis will be placed on character type and identifying materials that are appropriate. In addition, students will apply acting technique to creating character both individually and with partners, and audition technique to the building of repertoire. **Only offered in the Fall Semester.**

**Audition Techniques and Professional Practices**
(Required for MT Graduation) - In this course, students will learn the ins and outs and the dos and don’ts of auditions and professional practices in the performing arts industry. Focus will be placed on the performance aspect of auditioning as well as industry standard professional practices regarding material and media. **Only Offered in the Fall Semester.**

**College Audition Prep**
(Suggested elective for Junior MT’s hoping to pursue MT or other Performing arts discipline in college) - In this elective course, students will be introduced to the college audition process. Topics include: creating a college list, finding requirements for each school, learning how to fill out college applications, setting up user accounts (Common App, Acceptd), understanding the jobs of individuals in the process, pre-screen rules, and other vital information pertaining to the college audition experience. **Only Offered in the Spring Semester.**
Musical Theatre Book Building Studio
(Required for MT Graduation) - Through private instruction and studio classes, students will explore musical theatre repertoire to be added to their audition books for either professional or college performance/audition settings. Students will be given one 25 minute lesson per week with a weekly studio class. **Only offered in the Fall Semester**

Musical Theatre Dance Styles
(Required for MT Graduation) In this course, students will learn original Broadway choreography from current and past Broadway shows as well as understand the significance they hold in musical theatre history. Through Dance technique and research projects students will explore choreographers and their individual styles and how they changed the face of Musical Theatre. This course is open to any student attending WAA by way of the dance placement exam. **Only offered in the Spring Semester**

Musical Theatre Ensemble Skills
(Required for MT Graduation) In this course, students will explore group numbers from the musical theatre cannon as an ensemble. Students will learn the fundamentals of aural skills, how to read music as an ensemble member, how to hold harmony in an ensemble, and techniques for building stamina in musical pieces that require them to sing while moving. Students will also work in duet and trio settings applying the same skills. **Only offered in the Fall Semester**

Musical Theatre Jazz
(Required for MT Graduation) In this high energy, intermediate/advanced dance class students will explore technique and choreography from the greats of Musical Theatre Jazz dance. Emphasis will be placed on terminology, stylization, alignment, and proper dance technique. This course is open to any student attending WAA by way of the dance placement exam. **Only Offered in the Fall Semester**

Musical Theatre Studio Coaching
(MT Majors Will Receive Priority) - Limited Capacity - This is a private coaching/studio class. Students will have a weekly voice lesson as well as a weekly studio class where all students will perform materials for the class. Students will receive materials if they need them or can bring materials from other classes or performance situations to work on in lessons. **Offered in both the Spring and the Fall Semesters.**

Private Coaching
(MT Majors Will Receive Priority) - Limited Capacity - In this elective course, students will have the opportunity to meet one on one with an instructor to work on materials the student may need extra
help with. **Offered in the Spring Semester.**

**Senior Repertoire/College Advisory**

Senior MT Majors - Students in this course will continue to work on and explore college materials (songs and monologues) as they move into the in-person audition segment of their college audition experience. Continued guidance in the college audition process will be provided to students. Students that will choose to not pursue MT in college will continue work on in class material. **Offered in the Fall Semester.**

**Senior Seminar (Showcase)**

Senior MT Majors - In this collaborative class, musical theatre seniors will prepare for their senior showcase which will also be considered their capstone project. Students will not only prepare numbers to be performed but will also be responsible for all aspects of the show under the guidance of theatre professionals. **Offered in the Spring Semester.**

**THEATRE COURSES:**

**Acting 1**

Students will engage in a deeper exploration of auditioning and the rehearsal process. Focus will be placed on Modern and Contemporary texts/scripts where students will delve into long form character analysis and development. Central focus will be placed on scene work and working with partners and or small groups. Students will participate in Studio Class throughout the semester/year, which is an opportunity to perform selected monologues or scene work for faculty and students. **Prerequisite** - Introduction to Acting. This course is open to all Theatre Arts and Musical Theatre students, but will be primarily populated by Sophomores.

**Acting 2**

Students will undertake a more in depth examination of specialized acting styles. Focus will be on exploration of Shakespeare and Commedia dell’Arte. Students will use monologue and scene work to explore these areas. Students will also concentrate on preparing for College Auditions and developing their Self Taping skills. Students will participate in Studio Class throughout the semester/year, which is an opportunity to perform selected monologues or scene work for faculty and students. **Prerequisite** - Acting I. This class is required of all Junior Theatre Arts students. If necessary, TA201 Acting
I and TA302 Acting II, may be combined.

**Acting 3**
Focus will be placed on the various acting techniques of Michael Chekhov, Jerzy Grotowski, Bertolt Brecht, and Theatre of the Absurd. Students will also focus on Auditioning for college, summer theatre programs, or summer stock. Students will participate in Studio Class throughout the semester/year, which is an opportunity to perform selected monologues or scene work for faculty and students. **Prerequisite** - Acting II. This course is required of all Senior Theatre Arts students.

**Directing II**
This course will study notable directors in Theatre past and present. The emphasis will be understanding different types/styles of directing and discovering your style of directing. Students may direct One Acts written by Playwriting students.

**Fundamentals of Directing**
This course examines the basics of directing for the stage with emphasis on communication, collaboration, and cooperation. Students will learn more about the design process, the auditioning and casting process; and script analysis all from the director’s perspective. Students will practice a variety of exercises and encounter modern texts and techniques, with opportunities to direct small scenes or One Acts. This course is required of all Junior Theatre Arts students. This course is not open to all Westinghouse students.

**Fundamentals of Play Structure & Playwriting**
This course will examine the essential elements of play construction, with early emphasis on structure through literary analysis of dramatic texts. Students will study the basics of playwriting through exercises and practice, culminating in the completion of a One Act Play. This play may be produced at the New Works Festival at the end of the school year. This course is required of Senior Theatre Arts students. This course is open to all upperclassmen at Westinghouse.

**Introduction to Acting**
This course will introduce the beginning actor to foundational acting skills, techniques, and methodologies. Students will explore acting through pantomime, improvisation, storytelling, basic character development, and they begin building their repertoire for auditions. Students will participate in Studio Class throughout the semester/year, which is an opportunity to perform selected monologues
for faculty and students. This course is required of all incoming Freshman Theatre Arts students and newly enrolled Theatre Arts students. This course is open to all Westinghouse students as an Art Elective.

**Introduction to Dance**
Students will select an Intro to Dance course offering from the Dance Program. Intro to Tap, Intro to Contemporary, or Hip Hop are all offered as a semester elective and are open to all Westinghouse students. This dance class will also count toward a PE credit. This is a requirement for Theatre Arts Students.

**Introduction to Theatrical Design**
Part history of Design, part elements and principles of design, this course will offer students the opportunity to learn more about scenic, costume, lighting, sound, and make up design.

**Modern and Contemporary Drama**
This course will examine major dramatic texts in America from the beginning of the 20th century to the present. Primarily a literature course, students will engage in class discussions and encounter contemporary American social issues addressed by the theatre. This course is required of all Sophomore Theatre Arts students.

**Professional Aspects**
A study of the practical demands and requirements of a professional career in Theatre with emphasis on portfolio development and audition skills. Students will develop knowledge of resume building techniques, unions, career prospects, and the business of making theatre. Emphasis will be placed on SETC, and ITF and how to use these professional organizations to audition for colleges, universities, and summer theatre opportunities.

**Script Analysis/Dramatic Criticism**
This course will explore the dramatic form and structure of a play. Students will read and analyze various scripts in order to study the playwright’s intentions, methods, and meaning.

**Stage Movement (and Dance)**
This course is an introduction to Dance. Preferably, students would take this course through the Dance Program. This class will count as a PE credit. This is a requirement for Theatre Arts Students.
Styles of Theatre
This Theatre History course will examine the various styles of theatre from Realism to Physical Theatre, Theatre of the Absurd to Poor Theatre and everything in between. Students will study and analyze various plays and engage in class discussions and project work.

Theatre Arts Senior Seminar
This will serve as the requirement for Senior Seminar, for all Theatre Arts students. In this year long course students will be required to collaborate with each other to devise a new theatre work OR adapt an existing children’s story to be performed for elementary school audiences. Students will organize, produce, and perform every aspect of the production. Later in the year, students will prepare and market a showcase to be presented to theatre professionals. This course is required of all Senior Theatre Arts students. This course is only open to Senior Theatre Arts students or Senior Musical Theatre students.

Theatre History I/Stagecraft
This full year course consists of a semester course in Theatre History I followed by a semester course of Stagecraft. This course is intended to broaden the theatre students’ understanding of and appreciation for Theatre History. Students will study the origins of Theatre, Greek, Roman, and Medieval dramatic conventions, theories, practices, and traditions. Exploration of basic Production elements will also be covered. These include, but are not limited to: set construction, stage safety; lighting equipment, lighting equipment usage, and lighting equipment safety; sound equipment, sound equipment usage, and sound equipment safety, props, costumes, and stage management. This course is required of all incoming Freshman and newly enrolled students.

Theatre History II
Theatre History II will examine theatrical and dramatic conventions, theories, practices, and traditions from the Renaissance to Modern Theatre. Students will read plays from this time period, engage in class discussions, complete group projects, and write a paper or two.