

2012-2013 Art Program Art Prerequisites

Art Prerequisites - / Full-Year Entry Level			
Grade	Course	Prerequisite	
9-12	Art Foundations Art Appreciation Graphic Communications 1 CP		
Art Electives - / Semester			
Grade	Course	Prerequisite (C or better)	
10-12	Clay 1	Art Foundations	
	Clay 2 CP	Clay 1	
	Drawing 1	Art Foundations	
	Drawing 2 CP	Drawing 1	
	Painting 1	Art Foundations	
	Painting 2	Painting 1	
	Commercial Art 1	Art Foundations or Graphic Communications 1	
	Printmaking	Art Foundations	
	Sculpture	Art Foundations	
12	Digital Photography CPA	Art Foundations or Graphic Com. 1 and teacher recommendation	
11-12	Digital Illustration CP	Graphic Com. 2 or Commercial Art 1 and teacher recommendation	
Art Electives - / Full Year			
Grade	Course	Prerequisite	
10-12	Graphic Communications 2 CPA	Graphic Communications 1 and teacher recommendation	
Art Electives - Honors and Advanced Placement			
Grade	Course	Full or Half year	Prerequisite
10-11	Honors Drawing and Painting 1	Full	A- or better in Art Foundations and teacher recommendation
11-12	AP Art Prep H	Half	Teacher recommendation
11-12	Generative Studies H	Drawing 1	One other elective
11-12	Art Concentration H	Half	Drawing I and Painting 1
12	AP Studio Art	Full	Teacher recommendation, portfolio review. Materials fee required

Graphics Communication Major (Partnership Program)

Note: Bold Classes are required and credits must total 15 for the Partnership major.			
Grade	Course	Prerequisites	
9-11	Graphic Communications 1		
11-12	Graphic Communications 2	Graphic Communications 1 and teacher recommendation	
11-12	Digital Illustration	Graphic Communications 2 or Commercial Art 1 and teacher recommendation	
11-12	Digital Photography	Graphic Communications 1 or Art Foundations and teacher recommendation	
10-12	Commercial Art 1	Graphic Communications 1 or Art Foundations and teacher recommendation	
9-10	Computer Tools for Business		
10-11	Introduction to Marketing		
11-12	Fashion Merchandising		

Full-Year Prerequisites

The Art program offers three different prerequisite Courses to all students. In Art Foundations, students are introduced to the major Elements and Principles of Design through a variety of artistic experiences with a focus on art production. Art Appreciation, allows students to explore the elements and principles of design through a variety of experiences ranging from art history to art production with a lesser emphasis on production. Graphic Communications 1 also introduces students to the elements and principles of design, but uses digital media to explore the art and technology of design. Once students successfully complete one of these courses with a C or above, they are provided with many

elective choices to further their education in art and design. Students can enroll in a variety of semester and full-year courses that explore and develop skills in a variety of media. Honors and advanced placement courses provide a challenging option for the serious art student. Partnership students can choose a Graphic Communications Major (For more information on the Partnership Program, see the Technology section of this guide.) All art students are expected to have a serious attitude and personal commitment to their artwork. Students looking beyond courses to round out their high school experience should consult with their art teachers for both advice and recommendations.

The Art Department reserves the right to offer an art project designed as an alternative assessment for mid-year exams and for final exams

Art Foundations (Grades 9-12)

5 credits

Students will explore the Elements and Principles of Design through a hands-on experience with art creation and production. Emphasis is placed on introductory painting and drawing focusing on subject, style, technique and creative problem solving. Student will work both two dimensionally and three dimensionally. This course is considered the gateway to the art electives.

Art Appreciation (Grades 9-12)

5 credits

Art Appreciation investigates the role of visual art in our personal lives, culture and world. Class activities will range from viewing and discussing art slides to investigating the historical context of art movements to creating paintings and drawings. Students will study the Elements and Principles of Design as organizational tools for their own work, and analytical tools for evaluating the work of others. Art Appreciation is not a gateway to Honor level Art electives (Studio Art and AP). However, with a successful experience in Art Appreciation, a student may proceed with a teacher recommendation.

Graphic Communications 1 (CP, Grades 9-12 WPP)

5 credits (No prerequisite)

This course provides an introduction to the graphic arts. Emphasis is placed on the digital design process. Students learn the elements and principles of design while exploring the creative capabilities of the Adobe Creative Suite software. Visual expression, problem solving, page layout, and image creation are presented. This course is a prerequisite for Graphic Communication 2. Preference will be given to students in grades 9 -11. This is a required course for students in the Wachusett Partnership Program Graphics major, but students do not need to be in the WPP to take this course.

Semester Electives

Sculpture (Grades 10-12)

2½ credits

This course is an exploration of art in three dimensions. The emphasis of this course is on the development of skills and creativity in the use of materials such as clay, stone, plaster, wood, found objects and wire. Projects will focus on representational and abstract subject matter, and give students exposure to historical and contemporary artists. This course will broaden and reinforce the students understanding of the elements and principles of design. The important learning processes of creative problem solving and critical thinking will also be emphasized.

Commercial Art (CPA, Grades 10-12)

2½ credits

Students will approach their artwork through the eyes of a graphic artist/designer. Graphic design, illustration and advertising techniques will be explored with an emphasis on innovation and creative presentation. Computer application to design will slowly be introduced. Many 21st century skills are utilized as process in this course. (This course is a pre-requisite for Digital Illustration/Commercial Art 2-a graphic communication course.)

Clay 1 (Grades 10-12)

2½ credits

A concentrated course in the basic techniques of hand building (slab, coil and pinch), glazing and firing. Study will include exploring the process by which clays are transformed from earth to art. Students will also be exposed to historical and contemporary ceramics.

Clay 2 (CPA, Grades 11-12)

2½ credits (Prerequisite: C or better in Clay I)

A more advanced course in ceramics for the serious and dedicated art student. Projects will introduce new techniques while encouraging individualized solutions and styles. This intensive course demands independent and studious work ethic in the classroom. In addition, students are expected to spend many hours planning and researching on their own time.

Drawing 1 (Grades 10-12)

2½ credits

Learning to draw means observing the visual properties of forms and the spaces they occupy. This course will focus on a variety of drawing techniques and materials that will reinforce skills needed to improve observational and imaginative design. Students who take this course will not be eligible for Studio Art.

Drawing 2 (CPA, Grades 10-12)

2½ credits (Prerequisite: C or better in Drawing I or Studio Art)

A more advanced course for students particularly interested in art. A higher in depth level of drawing will be conducted through various drawing concepts, media and styles. Class emphasis is life drawing.

Painting 1 (Grades 10-12)

2½ credits

A course designed to explore basic techniques of painting. A variety of painterly techniques and materials will be used such as acrylic, watercolor, tempera and mixed media. Students who take this course will not be eligible for Studio Art.

Painting 2 (CPA, Grades 11-12)

2½ credits (Prerequisite: C or better in Painting I)

A more advanced and intensive course for those particularly interested in art. Class concentration will be placed on a wide variety of painting mediums and painting styles leading towards a higher level of creative problem solving. Additional emphasis will be placed on personal investment.

Printmaking (Grades 10-12)

2½ credits

This exploratory course uncovers the painterly printmaker in all of us. Students will further develop their understanding of the basic elements and principles of design by practicing and applying the printmaking processes of monotype, intaglio, relief and other experimental methods. This course is an opportunity to combine your interest in drawing and painting skills with both invented imagery and direct observation.

Digital Illustration (CPA, Grades 10-12)

2½ credits (Prerequisite: C or better in Commercial Art 1)

This course explores *Adobe Illustrator*, a digital drawing and design program. Students learn the creative capabilities of the software and produce a series of illustrations and graphic design projects as well as a portfolio of illustrations. This is a good course for both fine-art students who have never taken a computer art class or for graphics students who want to learn to use the illustration program in the Adobe Creative Suite. This class is also known as Commercial Art 2.

Digital Photography (CPA, Grade 12)

2½ credits (Prerequisite: Art Foundations, or Graphic Communications 1)

This course introduces students to photography using a digital camera. Students learn camera basics as well as creative aspects of photography. Students try their hands at photo-journalism by taking pictures for the school newspaper. Digital darkroom and enhancement techniques are covered. Students produce a portfolio of photographs.

Full-Year Electives

Graphic Communications 2 (CPA, Grades 11-12 WPP)

5 credits (Prerequisite: Graphic Communications 1)

Students work on more complex digital images using the Adobe Creative Suite software. Students develop their own style of design and visual expression. In addition, students design and lay out *The Echo*, the school newspaper, and create posters for WRHS theatrical productions. Students are expected to be self-motivated and able to meet deadlines. Preference will be given to students in Grades 10-11. This is a required course for students in the Wachusett Partnership Program Graphics major, but students do not need to be in the WPP to take the course.

Honors and AP Electives

Studio Art (H, Grade 10-11) (Also known as Honors Drawing 1 and Painting 1)

5 credits (Prerequisite: A- or better in Foundations and art teacher approval.)

This course runs as an Honors level Drawing 1 and Painting 1 and, therefore, is not open to students who have previously taken Drawing I or Painting I. This course is a rigorous study, primarily in the forms of drawing and painting, at an advanced problem solving level. The student will be expected to utilize the discipline and habits developed in Foundations and to perform as a young artist. This course requires substantial work outside of class. Sketchbook work is required. Studio Art will provide a solid foundation that prospective art majors/minors can build upon for success in the development of their portfolio and their arts/visual education. Students will be admitted only with prior instructor approval.

Art Concentrations (H, Grade 12)

2½ credits (Prerequisite: 2 electives, one of which has to be Drawing 1 or Studio Art, and instructor approval)

A course designed to challenge the student who is considering an education in the arts beyond the high school level and/or interest in portfolio development. The main focus is on developing problems that require students to think creatively, exercise technical excellence, sharpen observational skills, work independently, and express one self both visually and verbally. Students are advised to have a positive attitude, an open mind, be willing to work hard, be diligent, responsible and mature, and develop a sense of personal commitment. College representatives will visit class. A focus of the class is preparation of the college portfolio.

Generative Studies (H, Grade 12)

2½ credits (Prerequisite: Two electives, one of which has to be Drawing 1, and instructor approval)

This course focuses on developing a personal and artistic voice. It is designed for the student who has something to say. Through a variety of art materials students will cover theme-based projects such as the environment, self-identity, politics, and other social issues that need a visual statement.

AP Art Prep (H, Grades 11 – 12)

2½ credits (Prerequisite: Art teacher recommendation)

This rigorous course provides the serious art student with synthesizing artistic problems and experiences in color/design, 3 dimension and drawing. This course will assist the student in developing the breadth portion of the AP portfolio as well as artistic flow.

Advanced Placement Studio Art: The Drawing Portfolio (AP, Grade 12 only)

5 credits (Prerequisite: Drawing 2 or Painting 2, portfolio review, and AP teacher recommendation. AP Art Prep is suggested junior year.

There is a \$50 materials fee attached to this course.

AP Art is designed for students who are considering attending a visual arts college and who demonstrate proficiency in a variety of areas, including drawing, color and design and three-dimensional work. This is a full year course that helps students to prepare for a rigorous study of creating and expressing visual ideas. This course will follow the Advanced Placement curriculum guidelines for developing the Drawing Portfolio and will specifically focus on the "quality" and "concentration" sections of the portfolio. The General Portfolio consists of three sections: Section 1: "Quality" 5 original pieces of work, Section 2: "Concentration" 12 slides of original work, Section 3: "Breadth" 12 slides of original work.

A summer assignment is a vital part of Advanced Placement Art. Students must prepare several works before returning to school in September during the summer before their senior year. It is expected that all students in this course will submit their portfolio to the AP evaluation committee for review.