

New Testament | Intro to New Testament (F or W or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students in 10th, 11th, and 12th grade. *This course examines the Scriptures of the early Christian movement, collected in the New Testament, generally with emphasis on the Gospels. Concentrating on the person and significance of Jesus, students will examine his life and his teachings, as well as teachings about him. The following areas of study will be covered: the political/religious/social context of Jesus' teachings (first-century Judaism and the Greco-Roman world); the nature of the gospels; the birth narratives; parables; miracles; understanding Jesus' arrest, crucifixion, and resurrection; and various approaches to understanding who Jesus was and what he did.*

Buddhism | Buddhism (S) Credits - 1 Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th graders. May be taken for History credit. *This course explores the history, philosophy, and cultural diversity of the largest "missionary" religion in the world. Born on Indian soil in the sixth century B.C.E., Buddhism has expanded to the entire globe. We begin by examining the story of Siddhartha Gautama and his journey toward becoming "The Awakened One," the Buddha. The course will then include the following: the teachings of the Buddha; core philosophical concepts; Buddhist cosmologies; scriptural traditions, architecture and sculpture; forms of meditation and related practices; Buddhist expansion in to Sri Lanka, China, Korea and Thailand; Buddhism and Taoism; Buddhism in Japan and the emergence of Zen and the synthesis with Shintoism; modern Tibetan and American Buddhism; and modern Buddhist figures such as Thich Nhat Hanh and The Dalai Lama. The texts for this class will include a selection of primary and secondary sources, films, and articles. The course will be seminar based, with a high expectation of student participation. The field projects may include the following: Visiting with Buddhist communities in Washington, D.C. and Frederick and attending when possible Dharma talks, meditations, and ceremonies; meeting with Buddhist roshis and practitioners.*

World Religions | Intro to World Religions (F or W or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students in 10th, 11th, and 12th grade. *This course explores the religious dimension of human existence by close examination of three major non-Western faith traditions. With careful attention to particular religious themes and existential questions common to each of the traditions, we aim to develop an understanding of the theory and vocabulary necessary to engage critically religious faith and practice as embodied in individuals and communities. Emphasis will be given to the study of doctrinal beliefs, religious histories, sacred texts, and cultural expressions. This course is not designed to inspire faith or conversion. Rather, it aims to provide intellectual challenge, and to encourage deeper levels of understanding and appreciation for the religious dimension of human existence. In particular, we will attend to the existential questions: Where did we come from? Where are we going? How are we to live as authentic human beings?*

Existentialism | Existentialism in Literature (W) Credits - 1 Permission of the department is required. Open to seniors. *Though today considered a major philosophical movement, Existentialism began predominately as a literary movement. Following the rise of modernism and riding on the heels of the Great War, existentialist writers explored questions of meaning and order in human existence. Concerned with the isolation and alienation they observed in the wake of modernization and urbanization, existentialists brought renewed energy to the puzzle of individual identity and the meaning of the human self. War and poverty fueled doubt in the existence, benevolence or omnipotence of God. This challenge to Providence opened the door to the threats of chaos, absurdity and, ultimately, meaninglessness.*

Students in this course will read works of drama and fiction to develop an understanding of the discourse of existentialism. By the end of the term, students will understand both the philosophical basis of existentialism and the challenge it presents to traditional religious worldviews.

Department: Fine Arts

Dance

Dance Comp I | Dance Composition I (F or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This course provides students the opportunities to learn the fundamentals of choreography. Students come to recognize that a dance has a beginning, a middle and an end, and that the form of a dance must be related to its content if it is to be an aesthetic whole. Through experimentation and improvisation, compositional elements are gradually introduced (space, time energy, etc.) and students attempt to incorporate these elements into their compositional work. After school rehearsals, special engagements and performances may be required.*

Dance Intro | Introduction to Dance (F or W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This course will provide students with the opportunity to acquire proficiency in dance regardless of previous training and background. From the athlete looking to improve balance and flexibility to the student with prior knowledge wanting to develop their interest in dance, this course is designed to incorporate all levels of ability. The content includes application of fundamental principles of modern, ballet and jazz technique. Including barre, center floor, axial center, and locomotor and physiologically sound movement progressions. Class will primarily consist of technique; however, a variety of dance related topics (including the introduction of the history and terminology of these idioms) will be covered in lecture format.*

Dance Comp II | Dance Composition II (W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Dance Composition I or permission of the instructor. *This course provides students the opportunities to further extend the acquisition of knowledge of techniques of choreography and performance. The content includes experiences in dance critique, research on periods in dance history, lighting design, costumes and dance choreography for performance. After school rehearsals, special engagements and performances may be required.*

Dance Comp III | Dance Composition III (S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Dance Composition III or permission of instructor. *This course will provide students the opportunity to further extend the knowledge of techniques of choreography and performance. Students will express their understanding of choreographic elements (space, time and energy) through use of both traditional and invented movements. Group work, including partnering, as well as solo work, is explored.*

Music

Band | Band Performance (F W S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Permission of the department. This course earns 1/3 credit per term. *This course is designed for students who play brass, woodwind and percussion instruments. Students practice performance skills both individually and as an ensemble. Required public performances are an important part of the work for this course. The course encourages an understanding of the aesthetics of music and also teaches the skills of intonation, sight reading, blending, tone quality, and basic musicianship. Students are enrolled into this course upon recommendation of the music faculty.*

Chorale | Choral Performance (F W S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. This course earns 1/3 credit per term. *This course is designed for singers - sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses. Students will practice performance skills both individually and as an ensemble. Public performances will be an important part of the work for this course. The course will encourage an understanding of the aesthetics of music and will also teach basic music theory and sight reading. Students will be enrolled into this course upon recommendation of the music faculty.*

Strings | String Performance (F W S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Permission of the department. This course earns 1/3 credit per term. *This course is designed for string players - violins, violas, cellos, and string bass players. Students will practice performance skills both individually and as an ensemble. Public performances will be an important part of the work for this course. The course will encourage an understanding of the aesthetics of music and will also teach basic music theory and sight reading. Students will be enrolled into this course upon recommendation of the music faculty.*

Writing Music | Writing Music for Today's World (F or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This course will provide hands-on musical experience in creating music, beginning with setting an original poem to music, and culminating in writing a musical score. The course will involve the study of the musical elements of melody, rhythm, harmony, texture, timbre, and form through actual music composition on the computer as well as listening exercises. Both classical and popular music will be studied as it relates to the student's work. When possible, a field trip to a musical concert will be incorporated into the course curriculum.*

Guitar & Drums | Making Music: Guitar and Drums (F or W or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *Students will experience the joy of making music by learning to play Guitar and African drums. Students will also study the fundamentals of rhythm, harmony, timbre, texture, form and pitch as they develop their ability to play these instruments. They will be introduced to musical notation as well as "playing by ear". This class is for non-musicians as well as for students with previous musical experience.*

Music History | The History of Music (F W S) Credits - 3 Prerequisite: concurrent enrollment in or successful completion of US History. This course can be taken to earn credit in History. *This year long course works chronologically through all periods of recorded music from the Medieval period through the present day. The main thrust of the course is to discover that music is an outgrowth of every aspect of our society from political views, to religious doctrine, and even science and technology. There is also some emphasis placed on the ability to recognize styles and characteristics of the music of specific periods.*

Theatre

Acting I | Acting I (F or W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *Performing truthful action on stage is the actor's essential task. This course introduces students to basic acting skills, focusing on character development through improvisation, monologues, and scene study. Students are exposed to a wide variety of techniques to cultivate imagination, creativity, physical dexterity, and vocal variety.*

Tech I Stagecraft | Stagecraft (W) Credits - 1 *An introduction to basic set construction, painting, and lighting methods involved in creating a theatrical production. This class will be highly hands-on and include woodworking, painting, and electric work such as hanging and focusing theatrical lighting instruments. By the end of this class, a student would be a strong asset to a technical theater crew in any capacity that he or she is needed.*

Speech | Speech (F or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This class will introduce students to the speaker's basic tasks: clear, full, free vocal and physical communication. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of exercises and techniques, focusing on building skills of articulation, phrasing, rhythm, tempo, concentration, spontaneity, imagination, physicalization, and interpretation.*

Fundamental principles of speech will be presented through exercises and improvisations. Techniques for freeing and developing the Voice and Body will be integrated into class work and daily warm-ups. A process for vocal and analytical interpretation of various forms of literature (prose, poetry, drama) will be introduced. Extemporaneous presentations will be developed as well. Students will rehearse, perform and evaluate their work and that of their classmates as work progresses. Students will learn skills leading to a well planned oral presentation.

Acting II Improv | Acting II: Improvisation Techniques (W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Acting I or permission of instructor. *Building on the base established in Acting I, students will build on their improvisation techniques, to develop characters, tell stories, and create environments where their characters live. Improvisation is a key to finding freedom for the performer. The core project of this class focuses on character development. Students will create and explore a character of their own creation through a series of improvisations with classmates. The core elements of character, conflict, objectives, tactics and obstacles are rooted in this process.*

Acting II Scene | Acting II: Advanced Scene Study (S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Acting I and Acting II Improv or permission of instructor. *Building on the base established in Acting I and Acting II Improv, this course focuses on performance of Classical texts. Each term a focus will be chosen from among the following: Greek tragedy, Shakespeare and his contemporaries, Moliere, the Neoclassical tragedians, Restoration and 18th-century comedians, late 19th Century classicists (Shaw, Ibsen, Chekhov) commedia dell'arte, and contemporary theatre-of-the-absurd and other nonlinear forms.*

Acting III | Acting III: On Stage (F W S) Credits - 3 Prerequisite: Acting II Improv and Acting II Scene or permission of instructor. *This course is for upper level students who want to delve into the world of advanced acting techniques ranging from Arthur Lessac's Body Wisdom and Anne Bogart's Viewpoints work, to ensemble performance, performance art and directing. The focus for each term will develop according to the interests of the students enrolled.*

Visual Art

Painting I | Painting I (F or W or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of painting with acrylic paint. The student will explore hands-on techniques of abstract and realistic imagery through the painting medium. The course gives the student a clear understanding of painting styles through hands-on practice and visual examples from the department's extensive media collection.*

Ceramics I | Ceramics I (F or W or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This course is an introduction to the fundamental methods and techniques of ceramics. The assignments address context and content issues as the students create sculptural and utilitarian objects. The course also addresses the nature of art as it relates to the specific object.*

Computer Art | Computer Art (F or W or S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *Students will learn current digital imaging technology and its potential as a creative tool while learning the basics of using a Macintosh computer. This course introduces participants to imaging technology, including digital photography, scanning, image manipulation, and printing. Students will be given an understanding of how the computer works and learn software for page layout, line-art illustration, and photographic manipulation. The course offers file management and computer terminology and teaches skills essential for creating and laying out a page containing text and graphics. Students learn to control basic imaging tools to express themselves creatively in this new medium.*

Sculpture I | Sculpture I (F) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This introductory course addresses the formal elements and the fundamental methods and techniques of sculpture using a variety of materials. Assignments focus on developing a student's creative thinking relying on personal experience. Materials used are wire, cardboard, wood, fabric, food, and glass.*

Digital Video | Digital Video Art (F or W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This course is an introduction to the principles of interactivity in computer media, with an emphasis on digital video capture and editing. Students combine 2-dimensional imaging, graphics authoring, as well as audio and video technology for achieving interactivity from multiple source media.*

Drawing I | Drawing I (F or W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: None. Open to all students. *This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of drawing. The student will have the opportunity to create two-dimensional art. The course includes in-depth study of the elements of art, form, line, shape, value and space, and basic drawing materials. This is a prerequisite for any other studio course.*

Painting II | Painting II (W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Painting I. *This course is a continuation of Painting I. The student explores additional techniques in image making with painting. In addition, the student will paint on traditional and non-traditional painting formats. As a final assignment, the student will construct a large-scale painting support that includes the proper techniques of stretcher-building and canvas-stretching.*

Ceramics II | Ceramics II (F or W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Ceramics I *Intermediate ceramic principles and techniques will be taught through the use of hand-built and/or wheel-thrown objects (students preference). The elements of art, art historical reference, sources, and personal expression will be addressed. This course is intended to give the student an understanding of concepts common to all three-dimensional art forms. Art historical references will be researched to support the students personal expression.*

Drawing II | Drawing II (S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Drawing I *This course is a continuation of the fundamentals of drawing emphasizing exposure to a variety of media, application techniques, color, figure drawing, and compositional concerns. It will provide the opportunity for the student to concentrate on a style reflective of his or her individuality.*

Studio Art | Advanced Studio Art (F W S) Credits - 3 Prerequisite: Department approval required. *This year-long art studio course is designed for the student who has taken several art studio classes and desires to work in art on a more advanced, individual level. Using the skills and concepts acquired in previous classes, the student is pushed to develop a consistent body of work that leads to a strong portfolio. This course helps the student develop a strong individual direction and gives a solid foundation for a possible major in art on the college level.*

Ceramics III PN | Adv. Topics in Ceramics: Personal Narrative (W) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Ceramics II or permission of the instructor. *The sculpture will entail various methods of construction techniques to create an object to represent one's personal narrative. Mold making is introduced on a simple level in this Term. Students will understand the basics of plaster and will make a single mold from a clay prototype. They will make molded pieces to be incorporated into the sculpture. Historical references of various artists will lend professional examples as a visual library and foundation for the students to spring from. This assignment is supported by a final critique.*

Ceramics III SE | Adv. Topics in Ceramics: Sets (S) Credits - 1 Prerequisite: Ceramics II or permission of the instructor. *How do two or more objects relate to one another conceptually, visually, and/or structurally? This main question is the driving force to this terms exploration of form, space, and the relationship of objects to one another through design. The wheel or hand built methods can be used. Marbled clay will be introduced as an advanced technique. Various colored clays will be blended together in several different ways to create multicolored objects. Historical references of various artists will lend professional examples as a visual library. This assignment is supported by a final critique.*

Art History AP | AP Art History (F W S) Credits - 3 Prerequisite: successful completion of US History. *This course may be taken for history credit. Fairly strong reading and comprehension skills suggested. This thorough survey of art through the ages, involving architecture, painting, sculpture and the related arts, follows Advanced Placement guidelines. Reading material, slides, active class discussion, and museum visits are the tools used to aid the student's knowledge. It prepares students to identify art from specific cultures, periods, and styles and develops the ability to verbally articulate the comparison of conceptual themes between cultures and artwork. This course also concentrates on improving the student's writing to be descriptive in a clear and concise format. The course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam in Art History.*

Department: Physical Education

P Fitness 9th | Introduction to Wellness and Personal Fitness (F W S) Credits - 3 Prerequisite: None *This is an introductory wellness education program that exposes students to the multi-dimensional aspects of wellness. In addition students are introduced to a variety of exercises routines and taught the proper techniques for using the variety of exercise equipment in the Fitness Center.*

P Fitness 10th | Human Development and Personal Fitness (F W S) Credits - 3 Prerequisite: None *Human Development focuses on making informed and healthy decisions with regard to sexuality and the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Both units emphasize the importance of careful, thoughtful and informed decision making and the skills critical to sound emotional health. Students also design a yearlong personal fitness plan that will either be general or sport-specific in nature.*

P Fitness 11th | Upper Middler Personal Fitness (F W S) Credits - 3 Prerequisite: None *This course is designed to allow students the opportunity to design an implement a year long fitness plan. Students with no previous fitness center experience are introduced to the principles of health related fitness and the proper use of a variety of exercise equipment available in the Fitness Center. Students are assisted in setting up an appropriate yearlong fitness routine.*

P Fitness 12th | Senior Personal Fitness (F W S) Credits - 3 Prerequisite: None *This course is designed to allow students the opportunity to design an implement a yearlong fitness plan. Students with no previous fitness center experience are introduced to the principles of health related fitness and the proper use of a variety of exercise equipment available in the Fitness Center. Students are assisted in setting up an appropriate yearlong fitness routine.*