

LBHS - Visual Arts Course Descriptions

Foundational Art

5.0 Credits

VPA, GE

Fundamental studio practices and technical skills are taught in a structured progression to increase overall student development in the arts. Students will further examine two dimensional works leading to studio based projects that stress the key components of sketching, classic ink drawing styles, basic life drawing and rendering techniques, preliminary rough drafts and pictorial illustration. Further emphasis is placed on learning the guiding elements and principles of art, linear perspective, mixed media application, color theory/mixing, and basic painting methods. From the onset, Foundational Art scaffolds essential knowledge required to pursue advanced courses offered in the Visual Arts Program.

High Focus Drawing and Painting

5.0 Credits

VPA, GE

Prerequisite: Foundational Art

Students will pursue more advanced coursework with extended project duration. Expanding on both the media the proficiencies learned in Foundational Art, all students will develop portfolio ready fine art and illustration. Course work will hone accuracy in both figurative and anatomical drawing, strengthen proportional understanding, introduce sight size methodology, surface preparation, increased palette and brush control, and advanced painting techniques from reference material. Further attention is placed on the study of strong composition with a continued emphasis on preliminary sketching. Additionally, students will begin working with controlled lighting scenarios and focused life drawing/painting approaches. Media use includes a range of drawing inks, graphite pencils, charcoal/pastel, mixed-media application and oil paint.

AP Studio: Drawing

5.0 Credits

VPA, GE

Prerequisite: High Focus Drawing and Painting, and/or teacher approval

The creative and systematic study of conceptual and formal issues relating to drawing and painting are studied at a collegiate level. Highly motivated students will be provided a focused environment that fosters artistic growth and work ethic, with the ultimate goal of understanding the ongoing artistic process. Students will be challenged to think both critically and conceptually, and commit significant time to achieve excellence in both preliminary and final artworks. Working simultaneously inside and out of class, students are expected to produce high calibre portfolios that will culminate in a body of fifteen works known as the Sustained Investigation. This portfolio is highly student driven, involving particular subject matter, personal topics, stylistic approach and preferred technique.

Graphic Design I: Principles

5.0 Credits

CCS, VPA, GE

Students actively explore the major components of graphic art and standard commercial art practices relating to still imagery. A range of topics will be covered to develop conceptual thinking, organizational habits and fundamental project planning as a means to visually communicate ideas successfully.

Students will become proficient with traditional graphic art tools and drawing media in addition to computer generated designs using Adobe Photoshop®. An understanding of the guiding elements and principles of design will accompany the exposure to theory. Projects explore creative typography design, graphic icons and logotypes, poster art, digital collage, cover design, greeting cards, promotional swag, product branding and album art. Student designers will also expand on these topics and learn the practices of basic printing, project mounting and general construction.

Graphic Design II: Commercial

5.0 Credits

CCS, VPA, GE

Prerequisite: GD1: Principles

Students are exposed to an industry relevant experience through client oriented assignments. Building on the proficiencies learned in Graphic Design I, students will pursue advanced Photoshop® applications and couple these skills with other computer based programs. Students will regularly engage in collaborative planning sessions to discuss company design strategies, conceptual mock ups, layout variations, cutting edge typography solutions, and final design presentations. Assignments are purposed for digital marketing and web graphics, product graphics and package design, traditional advertising, contemporary page spreads, information design and commercial logo design. The integration of digital scanning, printing and photography applications will further document presentation-ready portfolios proposed for freelance and/or undergraduate submission.