

# 2024-2025 ART COURSE GUIDE



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## ART Course Descriptions

Courses in the Arts expose students to complex learning skills that they cannot receive in any other area of study. They present students with the opportunity to critically think, examine and process information. These valuable skills develop and foster students’ problem-solving abilities in a capacity that employers seek out. Lancaster High School offers art courses that will prepare students for career choices in the arts after high school such as architect, graphic designer, advertising designer, medical illustrator, fashion illustrator, web designer, art conservator, jeweler, ceramic artist, professional photographer, and many others. We are fortunate to be able to offer a wide range of art courses here at Lancaster. Use this wonderful opportunity, when selecting your course schedule, to take advantage of our exceptional program.



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## Studio in Art

**6130***Grades 9, 10, 11, 12***1 credit**

This foundation course covers the fundamentals of the visual arts and is a recommended preparation for most art electives. These fundamentals provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to further explore the linkage between art production, art history and aesthetics and art criticism. Students participating in this course will explore eight main units: The Language of Art, How Artists See the World, Creativity and Imagination, living with Art/Art as Design, Art as Self Expression, Art Tells a Story, Art and Religion/Meditation, and Art and Social Change. The course is aligned with the New York State Standards for the Visual Arts. Students have an opportunity to explore a variety of media as they learn to develop skills, techniques and understanding, which are essential in the visual arts. Hands on studio experiences parallel course content and provide practical application of key concepts. Forming the core of the Art program, Studio in Art is required for a sequence. Can be taken by 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders who need an Art credit to graduate.

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## Drawing and Painting

**6112***Grades 10, 11, 12***1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art

This in-depth course continues where Studio in Art left off, concentrating primarily on drawing and painting. Exploration of media and techniques is emphasized. Students are encouraged to find personal answers to art problems using skills and techniques acquired in the course. The course is designed to foster deeper understanding of art practices. Art criticism and art assessment help the student to appreciate their own and others' achievements.

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## Illustrating and Cartooning

**6109***Grades 10, 11, 12***1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art

This course is for students that love comics, cartoons and the illustrations found in magazines and children's books. It is designed for students who want to discover what makes particular cartooning and illustration styles unique and popular, and how to develop works of art with the same excitement and fun. Students must be willing to push beyond their own existing styles and try things that they have never done before. Students will focus primarily on character design and storytelling, and create a variety of artworks demonstrating these skills.

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## Studio in Graphic Design

**6111***Grades 10, 11, 12***1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art

Students will explore the areas of art and graphic design as a vehicle for visually communicating their ideas to others, with emphasis on creativity. Students will use a variety of conventional art materials as well as the computer to develop creative solutions, and will gain hands-on experience on Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator to explore their applications as an art medium. Areas explored will include: illustration, logo design, layout, lettering and ad design. Later in the year, projects will build in complexity and encompass package design, ad campaigns, and career and college opportunities.



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## Ceramics I

**6113****Grades 10, 11, 12****½ credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art

Are you the kind of person who loves to work with their hands? Are you someone who enjoys craft projects? Then Ceramics I is for you! You can make anything from clay and once you experience using it, you will want more time creating and getting your hands dirty...that may explain why people have been choosing careers in clay for centuries. Clay is one of the oldest and most interesting craft materials and there are millions of ways we use clay in our everyday lives. In this class, you will be using the potter's wheel, creating functional as well as sculptural art out of clay and experimenting with all types of hand-building. The finishing touch to your projects will be to explore a variety of glazing techniques. Come join the class and find out what brings students back to the ceramics room, even after the class is over. Ceramics 1 is a half year course, if you are interested in completing a full year of Ceramics you must sign up for Ceramics 2 as well (see below).

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## Ceramics II

**6223****Grades 10, 11, 12****½ credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Ceramics I

The clay is calling you back, of course.... so don't ignore it! In Ceramics II you will become an experienced potter and further develop your skills using clay. Projects will once again be a mix of functional and sculptural with a chance to really concentrate on your favorite building techniques. Students will work on the pottery wheel to gain better mastery and have and even greater contribution in project decision making.

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## Photography I

**6118****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art

During this course, students will learn an overview history of photography, the anatomy of a DSLR camera and applications of photography as an art form. Students will explore the work of contemporary and historical photographers. They will work with digital applications such as Photoshop, and will create rich, media-based art projects. If able, students will learn introductory film camera and dark room photography procedures. Classwork will also include photographic and educational field trips, darkroom processing, photo enhancement and alteration techniques. Students may rent cameras from the school with a lab fee.

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## AP 2D Design (Photography II)

**6124****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Photography I

This course is a direct follow-up to Photography I. This course is for students who wish to pursue their own independent photographic project in a series of visually related artworks (concentrations). Field trips and professional speakers will add awareness to career opportunities and professions in the diverse field of photography. Student work will be entered into local photo exhibits and art shows. Students will finish their high school photography career with a professional digital and traditional portfolio. Students are strongly encouraged (but not required) to submit this portfolio to the AP College Board for possible College credit in May. Portfolio submission is considered the same as taking any AP exam and therefore the cost of submitting your work is approximately \$100. Please note, even though some colleges still require students to take the college's foundation art courses, most colleges will allow students to use an AP 2D Design credit as a humanities elective.





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### Jewelry I

**6122****Grades 10, 11, 12****½ credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art

Clay, beads, pendants, findings, hemp, earrings, wire, rings... Find out how to create fabulous pieces of exquisite artful jewelry that will make all of your friends jealous. In this class you will learn a variety of basic jewelry construction techniques and use many different materials. The end result will be skills you can use anywhere and the confidence to go with them. As Jewelry 1 is a half year course, if you are interested in completing a full year of Jewelry you must sign up for Jewelry 2 as well (see below).

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### Jewelry II

**6123****Grades 10, 11, 12****½ credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Jewelry I

Metalsmithing, cutting metal, soldering, polymer clay, necklaces, bracelets, enameling, earrings... Learn how your favorite jewelry stores create one of a-kind-creations. In this class you will be cutting your own metal to use for enameled pendants, creating a ring using the lost wax casting process and many other advanced jewelry techniques. Lab fee with this class based on student choice of materials.

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### Portfolio Development

**6119****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Studio in Art

⊗ Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting

This course ties together the student's previous art education experiences. It is designed for the highly motivated student, who is serious about the study of art. It allows students to further explore areas of interest and to critically look at their own work and works of others. Students develop a journal/sketchbook that becomes a personal resource for new work. Preparation and presentation is ongoing as students assess works to be included in a final portfolio.

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### Independent Study

**6230 / 6236****Grades 11, 12****½ or 1 credit**

⊗ Prerequisite: Portfolio Development (or presently enrolled)

⊗ Required: Contract with permission of Teacher, Principal and Counselor

The Independent Study provides an opportunity for advanced students to work one on one with a specific teacher to develop work in a particular area. This venue is chosen when a student shows strengths and interests that go beyond the prescribed curriculum, and are personally motivated to work independently.