

# The Arts: Dance

## Dance

Dance Studio I:  
Introduction to Dance (1)

Dance Studio II:  
Basic Technique (1)

IB Dance HL/SL Year 1 (1)

IB Dance HL/SL Year 2 (1)

Dance is movement, visually organized in space and time. The way a dance shapes movement defines the critical attributes of its style, genre and place in the history of dance. A dancer's skills and techniques are often based on tradition and passed down from one generation to the next. Nonetheless, dance is in a constant state of self-definition. Dancers, choreographers and all those involved in studying and performing dance take part in defining and reinterpreting the art form.

Dance education in Harrison High School provides all students with the opportunity to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of dance as an art form. Students learn and refine dance skills and techniques in class and in performance, study the historical and cultural significance of dance and its evolution as an art form, and evaluate personal work and the work of others.

### DANCE STUDIO I: INTRODUCTION

Course No.: 880 Grades Offered: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: No previous dance experience is necessary

Dance Studio Level 1 is an introductory level course in which students learn the fundamentals of dance including studio etiquette, dance terminology and basic techniques to develop strength and physical awareness. Stu-

dents will study movement and choreography combinations in a variety of styles including African, tap, ballet, jazz, hip-hop and contemporary dance. Students will have the opportunity to attend professional dance performances. All students perform in the winter and spring concerts as well as occasional school and community events. This course fulfills the New York State arts requirement for graduation.

### DANCE STUDIO II: BASIC TECHNIQUE

Course No.: 925 Grades Offered: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Dance Studio I or Department Approval

Dance Studio Level 2 builds on the skills and concepts learned in Dance Studio I. In this course there is increased emphasis on movement concepts including placement, coordination and core strength applied to stretching, ballet barre work, across the floor skills and increasingly difficult choreography. Students will create original works and discuss their aesthetic, technical and artistic choices. They will also have the opportunity to participate in a dance class in New York City with professional dance members. All students participate in public dance performances. Students will be graded on their ability to learn dance technique and apply those skills to choreography. Students will understand how to observe and evaluate dance performances, and will demonstrate their knowledge of choreographic elements through group and individually assessed projects. All students perform in the winter and spring concerts as well as occasional school and community events.

### IB DANCE HL/SL YEAR 1

Course No.: 881 (SL) 882 (HL)

Grades Offered: 11

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Dance Studio II or Department Approval

### IB DANCE HL/SL YEAR 2

Course No.: 887 (SL) 940 (HL)

Grades Offered: 12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: IB Dance HL/SL Year 1

Dance is a unique medium for learning about self and the world. It is one essential component of artistic, aesthetic and cultural education, and develops creative potential through physical expression. The IB Dance curriculum aims for a holistic approach to dance, and embraces a variety of traditions and dance cultures. Performance, creative and analytic skills are mutually developed and valued whether the students are writing papers or creating/performing dances. The curriculum provides students with an arts and humanities orientation to dance. This orientation facilitates the development of students who may become choreographers, dance scholars and/or performers. The course also welcomes those students who seek life enrichment through dance.

The course is constructed so that all students are given opportunities to study a variety of world dance traditions through exposure to physical practice and observation as well as written investigation. Examining dance from both familiar and unfamiliar cultures and/or traditions develops comparative thinking skills and deepens understanding of one's own culture(s) as well as those of others.

At the end of this two-year course, all students complete IB internal and external assessments.

# The Arts: Music

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

## Instrumental or Vocal Performance Strand

Chorus, Band, Orchestra or Percussion (1.0)

## Instrumental or Vocal Performance Strand with IB Music

Chorus, Band, Orchestra or Percussion (1.0)

Chorus, Band, Orchestra or Percussion (1.0)

and

Music Theory & Analysis <sup>1</sup> (0.5)

Chorus, Band, Orchestra or Percussion (1.0)

and

IB Music Theory & Analysis SL/HL Year 1 <sup>2</sup> (.5)

Chorus, Band, Orchestra or Percussion (1.0)

and

IB Music Theory & Analysis SL/HL Year2 <sup>3</sup> (.5)

### Electives

#### Theory & Analysis

MyTunes: Playlists for Life (.5)

Music Theory & Analysis (.5)

### Extra-Curricular

#### Instrumental Performance

Swing Band

Jazz Ensemble

#### Vocal Performance

Madrigal Singers

Jazz Singers

# The Arts: Music

## Music

Music is at the heart of all civilizations. It has the power to connect us to each other, to our own culture past and present, and to appreciate the cultures and traditions of others. When studying music, students learn to work collaboratively, communicate effectively and think creatively, skills that will carry over into every academic area during high school and beyond.

The Harrison High School music program is designed to offer opportunities for all students who have an interest in music. Students have the opportunity to study music history, theory, composition and analysis at multiple levels as well as participate in vocal and instrumental performing groups. Our Marching and Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, String Orchestra and Chorus are open to all students who want to pursue a rigorous course of study and participate in concerts, festivals and community events. Experienced musicians are encouraged to consider joining one or more of the small-group ensembles that focus on madrigals, jazz and chamber music.

### INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

#### BAND

*Course No.: 851      Grades Offered: 9-12  
Credit: 1.0*

Band is a performing arts class designed to offer a rigorous and challenging course of study that addresses the many ways that students will interact with music in college, conservatory and university settings, from pep bands to private recitals, from world music to jazz, from Symphonic Winds to full NCAA Athletic Band performances and for enjoyment. Units of study include Stadium, Concert, Recital, Small Ensemble, Music Festival and Jazz performance units. Performances include formal concerts, recitals, "Half-Time" shows, Jazz Club appearances and parades as well as participation in national music festivals. Student progress is assessed through auditions, video reviews, group and private performances, NYSSMA judging, festival adjudication and personal interest projects.

music reading, performance skills and musical interpretation through units of study including sight reading, chamber music, theory and conducting. Performances include formal concerts, recitals and participation in national music festivals. Student progress is assessed through auditions, video reviews, group and private performances, NYSSMA judging and festival adjudication. This course fulfills the New York State art requirement for graduation.

#### PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

*Course No.: 868      Grades Offered: 9-12  
Credit: 1.0*

Percussion Ensemble is a performing arts class designed to offer a rigorous and challenging course of study that addresses the many ways that students will interact with music in college, conservatory and university settings, from pep bands to private recitals, from world music to jazz, from Symphonic Winds to full NCAA Athletic Band performances and even music just for fun. The Percussion Ensemble explores traditional, contemporary and marching percussion literature and provides students with the technical skills and musicality required for performing at college and university levels. The Percussion Ensemble performs both as a part of the Harrison High School Band and also as an independent ensemble at a variety of school and community functions including "Half-Time" shows, parades, concerts and competitions as well as in-state and national music festivals. As Band members, all Percussion Ensemble students attend and participate in all joint Band rehearsals and performances. Student progress is assessed through auditions, video reviews, group and private performances, NYSSMA judging, festival adjudication and personal interest projects. This course fulfills the New York State art requirement for graduation.

#### STRING ORCHESTRA

*Course No.: 871      Grades Offered: 9-12  
Credit: 1.0*

String Orchestra is a performing arts class designed to offer a rigorous and challenging course of study that addresses the many ways that string instrumentalists will interact with music in college, conservatory and university settings, from solo recitals, string ensembles, chamber and symphonic orchestras. Instruction emphasizes

music reading, performance skills and musical interpretation through units of study including sight reading, chamber music, theory and conducting. Performances include formal concerts, recitals and participation in national music festivals. Student progress is assessed through auditions, video reviews, group and private performances, NYSSMA judging and festival adjudication. This course fulfills the New York State art requirement for graduation.

### VOCAL PERFORMANCE

#### CHORUS

*Course No.: 861      Grades Offered: 9-12  
Credit: 1.0*

Chorus is a performing ensemble designed to offer a rigorous and challenging course of study that introduces students to a variety of musical genres and vocal styles including classical, jazz, gospel and pop. Instruction emphasizes proper vocal and breathing technique, music reading, rhythmic interpretation and part-holding. Students learn how to perform in both large and small group settings and have the opportunity to perform as soloists during Cabaret nights. Performances include formal concerts as well as participation in national music festivals and community events throughout the year. Student progress is assessed through auditions, NYSSMA judging and festival adjudication. This course fulfills the New York State art requirement for graduation.

### THEORY & ANALYSIS

#### MYTUNES: PLAYLISTS FOR LIFE

*Course No.: 856      Grades Offered: 9-12  
Credit: 0.5*

This course is designed for any student wishing to explore the world of music in a hands-on, project-oriented format. In the first semester, students will experience music through listening, performing and composing. Students will be

# The Arts: Music

## **BAND AND CHORUS ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS**

Course No.: 852 & 862

Course No.: 872 & 862

Grades Offered: 9-12 Credit: 1.0

This course allows students to take both Band and Chorus or Orchestra and Chorus on an alternating day rotation.

exposed to music from the Renaissance to the present; they will gain practical experience performing music on social instruments and composing music using traditional methods as well as digital media. During the second semester notation, construction, harmony, form, and rhythm will be addressed along with understanding tablature "tabs", arranging, and contemporary musical structure. Students complete one personal interest project each semester. Bring your instrument; this is a performance-based approach to learning and playing. This course fulfills the New York State art requirement for graduation.

## **MUSICAL THEORY AND ANALYSIS**

Course No.: 921

Grades Offered: 10-11

Credit: 0.5 (Alternate Day Full Year)

Prerequisite: Enrollment in Band, Orchestra or Chorus or Department Approval

This course is designed for the serious musician who wants to deepen his/her understanding of musical theory, history and analysis. Students will learn to recognize, analyze, identify, discriminate and hypothesize about a broad spectrum of music and musical genres and styles. Components of this study include listening, a study of musical structure (both its function and expressive character), exploring the elements of music, explicit use of musical terminology, fluency with standard notation, and a survey of historical and cultural contexts. As a result of completing this course, students will be able to competently investigate the linkage between two contrasting pieces of music and communicate this analysis through a multi-media presentation. This course is a prerequisite for enrollment in IB Music HL/SL.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES**

### ***IB MUSIC THEORY & ANALYSIS***

#### ***HL/SL YEAR 1***

Course No.: 960 (SL) 962 (HL)

Grades Offered: 11-12

Credit: 0.5 (Alternate Day Full Year)

Prerequisite: Music Theory and Analysis and Enrollment in IB Music Performance or Departmental Approval

### ***IB MUSIC THEORY & ANALYSIS***

#### ***HL/SL YEAR 2***

Course No.: 964 (SL) 965 (HL)

Grades Offered: 11-12

Credit: 0.5 (Alternate Day Full Year)

Prerequisite: IB HL/SL Year 1

IB Music Theory and Analysis is a course of study seeking to challenge music students by providing them with the opportunity to explore and enjoy the diversity of music globally, both past and present and enabling them to creatively develop their own knowledge base, abilities, and musical understandings through listening, study and performance. All IB Music students participate in one or more of the school's large ensembles as described above (Band, Orchestra, Chorus, or Percussion Ensemble). In addition to performances, IB music students enroll in a Theory & Analysis course in which they actively explore a wide range of music through historical and cultural points of view by examining musical elements including form and structure, notations, musical terminology and context in order to become aware of how musicians the world over work and communicate.

As a result of this course of study students will gain awareness, understanding and perception of music in relation to time, place and culture; be able to appropriately use musical terminology to describe and reflect their critical understanding of music; engage in comparative analysis of music in relation to time, place, and cultures; build creative skills through exploration, control and development of musical elements in composition; develop critical-thinking skills; and gain performance

skills through group and solo music-making.

At the end of this two-year course, all students complete IB internal and external assessments. Standard Level candidates submit a 20-minute recording of two or more public performances of the Band, Chorus or Orchestra or a 20-minute recording of one or more public solo recitals. Higher Level candidates submit three original compositions and a 20-minute recording of one or more public solo recitals. All IB Music candidates complete a listening paper and musical links investigation.

*IB Music Notes:* All IB Music candidates enroll in both a performing ensemble and in IB Music Theory and Analysis. It is recommended that IB Music Candidates take a full credit of performance in addition to one-half credit of IB Musical Theory & Analysis. If a student's schedule will not allow for this, the student may enroll in one-half credit of performance and one-half credit of IB Musical Theory & Analysis. IB Music Candidates who plan to participate in two performing groups (Band and Chorus or Orchestra and Chorus) must take a full credit of IB Music Performance in addition to one-half credit of IB Musical Theory & Analysis.

Due to the specialized nature of the IB Music assessments, all students need department approval prior to enrolling in an IB Music course. The requirement for completion of Music Theory and Analysis prior to IB Music may be waived for students who demonstrate proficiency in this area and receive department approval.

Seniors who have successfully completed Music Theory & Analysis are eligible to complete IB Music SL/HL in one year. Alternatively, seniors may complete IB Music SL/HL Year 1 and receive .5 course credits, but will not be eligible for an IB Certificate of Completion.

# The Arts: Theatre Arts

## Theatre Arts

Theatre Arts I: Introduction to Theatre Arts (.5)

Theatre Arts II: Basic Acting (.5)

IB Theatre Arts HL/SL Year 1 (1)

IB Theatre Arts HL/SL Year 2 (1)

Man's desire to tell stories predates history. From tales told around a campfire, to high-tech Broadway productions, humans have sought to express themselves through dramatic presentations. Theatre education in Harrison High School provides students with an opportunity to practice various aspects of theatre-making including acting, directing, playwriting, design and production and to learn about the history and development of modern theatre. Students learn to critically respond to and analyze theatrical texts and productions, create their own theatrical productions, and learn about the societal and cultural forces that have shaped theatre through the ages.

### THEATRE ARTS I: INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE ARTS

Course No.: 875 Grades Offered: 9-12  
Credit: 0.5 (Alternate Day Full Year)

Students learn about the fundamentals of acting, directing, theatrical design, play production and playwriting. The course begins with an introduction to theatre games, ensemble building, and storytelling techniques. Students view live and video-taped performances, read, act out, and analyze plays in order to be familiarized with theatrical

vocabulary and various modes of storytelling such as tableaux, radio plays and shadow puppetry. Works studied include *Sorry, Wrong Number*, *Peter Pan*, *Into the Woods* and a variety of one-act plays. Each year, students also take a field trip to view at least one live theatrical production. Students work in groups and individually to bring stories to life on stage. The course culminates in a presentation of original student work at our One-Act Festival.

### THEATRE ARTS II: BASIC ACTING

Course No.: 873 Grades Offered: 10-12  
Credit: 0.5 (Alternate Day Full Year)  
Prerequisite: Intro. to Theatre Arts or Departmental Approval

Building upon the idea of storytelling in theatre, students in the Basic Acting class engage in activities that allow them to express themselves orally and physically, and to interpret both classic and contemporary texts. The theories and techniques of Constantine Stanislavski, Viola Spolin, Vsevolod Myerhold, Patsy Rodenberg and Sanford Meisner are explored. The first semester focuses on the analysis and presentation of contemporary and classical monologues. The second semester focuses on the presentation of contemporary scenes. Students also work in groups to prepare presentations for the Spring One-Act Festival. Texts include *Acting for Young Actors: The Ultimate Teen Guide* and select classic and contemporary plays.

### IB THEATRE ARTS HL/SL YEAR 1

Course No.: 930 (SL) 931 (HL)  
Grades Offered: 11 and 12 Credit: 1.0  
Prerequisite: Theatre Arts II: Basic Acting or Department Approval

### IB THEATRE ARTS HL/SL YEAR 2

Course No.: 935 (SL) 936 (HL)  
Grade Offered: 12 Credit: 1.0  
Prerequisite: IB Theatre Arts SL/HL Year 1

IB Theatre is a two-year course of study designed for the serious student who wants to deepen his/her theoretical and practical knowledge of theatre. The course aims to challenge students' traditional idea of theatre and to explore the purpose of theatre throughout time, and in the 21st century. This is a

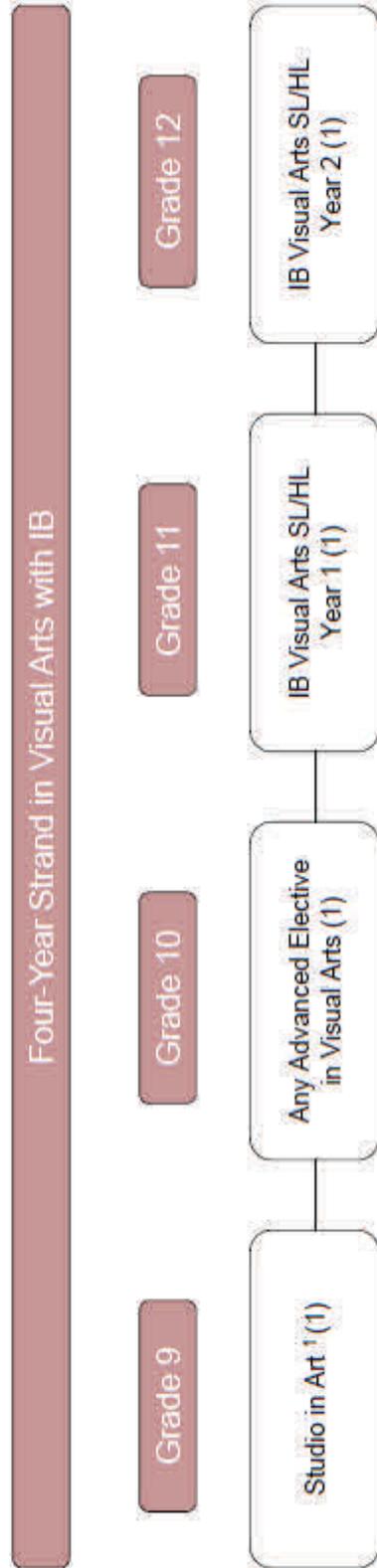
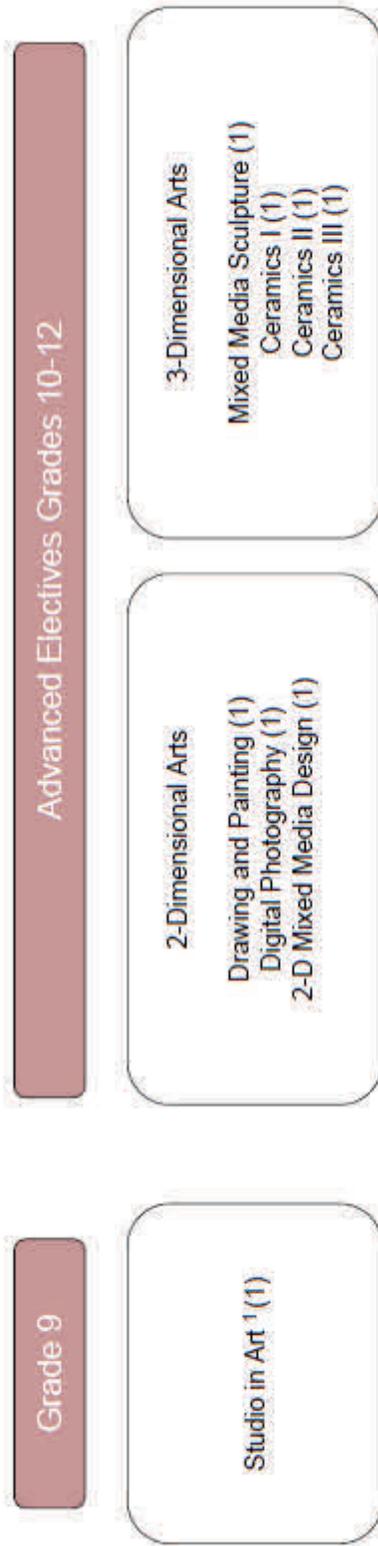
hands-on course giving students opportunities to explore the roles of the actor, director, designer and playwright. Each year will culminate with the realization of original student theatrical productions.

During the first year of this two-year course, students will conduct in-depth studies of various theatrical traditions. They will explore important theories and practices in their historical contexts including Commedia dell'Arte, Realistic Theatre, American Musical Theatre and Asian Theatrical traditions. The year culminates in an exploration of *The Laramie Project*. Students then collaborate to create an ethnographic theatre piece to present at the Spring One-Act Festival.

The second year begins with the study of the One-Person Play, during which time students each write and perform their own one-person theatre piece. Students then explore Augusto Boal's Theatre of the Oppressed, and the theories of Bertolt Brecht and Jerzy Grotowski. The course also covers theories in theatrical design and physical theatre techniques. The course culminates in an independent theatre project that is presented at the Spring One-Act Festival.

At the end of this two-year course of study, all students complete IB internal and external assessments. SL candidates submit a Research Investigation and Proposal for a Staged Performance. HL candidates also prepare a critique of the resources used in the investigation and a report on the theoretical context of the proposed performance. In addition, both SL and HL candidates give an oral presentation on their involvement in the performance and production aspects of theatre and submit an Independent Project Portfolio. For all components of the assessments, work submitted by HL candidates is longer and in more depth than that of SL candidates.

## PATHWAYS IN VISUAL ARTS



<sup>1</sup> Studio in Art is a prerequisite for all advanced art electives and may be used to satisfy the one-unit art or music requirement for graduation.

Note: Students acquiring a five-unit sequence in the visual arts will fulfill the Languages Other than English requirement for an Advanced Designation Regents Diploma.

# The Arts: Visual Arts

All people share the need to communicate and to create a sense of identity. From earliest times, there is evidence of the creation of visual art in all cultures. The study of art, and the creation of art, encourages an understanding of self, of one's cultural identity and how this is both similar to, and different from, others.

The Visual Arts program at Harrison High School presents opportunities for students to gain a strong foundation in the visual arts and to broaden their interests as they acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of different civilizations. Students have the opportunity to work in a variety of media and may elect to design a four-year sequence with a strong emphasis in one area, or they may choose to explore varied areas.

## **STUDIO IN ART**

*Course No.: 811      Grades Offered: 9-12  
Credit: 1.0  
Examination: Mid-term, Final Project,  
School Exam, and Sketchbook Journal*

Studio in Art is a comprehensive foundation course offering students experience in drawing, painting, three-dimensional design and art history. Students study the elements of art and principles of design through readings and viewing the work of established artists. These elements and principles are then applied in the creation of individual works done using a variety of materials and techniques. All students keep a sketchbook/journal throughout the course. Studio in Art is a prerequisite for any advanced art coursework and fulfills the New York State arts requirement for graduation.

## **DRAWING AND PAINTING I**

*Course No.: 821      Grades Offered: 10-12  
Credit: 1.0  
Examination: Project, Presentation,  
Sketchbook Journal  
Prerequisite: Studio in Art or Department  
recommendation*

This advanced course is designed to

enable the student to further develop foundation skills in drawing and painting. The course introduces a wide variety of media (charcoal, pencil, pastel, watercolor, acrylic and oil). All students keep a sketchbook/journal throughout the course, which is reviewed at the end of each marking period. Student portfolios will be developed and reviewed at the end of both the first and second semester.

## **CERAMICS I, II, AND III**

*Course No.: 822 / 823 / 824  
Grades Offered: 10-12      Credit: 1.0  
Examination: Projects, Presentations  
Prerequisite: Studio in Art*

Ceramics is the art of making objects of clay and other materials found in the earth and fired above 1000 degrees F. Clay is an excellent medium of expression with which students develop both creative ability and skill through manipulation. The content of this course includes various methods of construction, decoration, glazing and design. In Ceramics II emphasis is placed on functional ware and clay sculpture. Exploration of mold making will be covered in upper level ceramics. Ceramics III emphasizes the development of a 3D portfolio. Experimentation with mold-making, mosaics and alternative firings will be covered.

## **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

*Course No.: 834      Grades Offered: 10-12  
Credit: 1.0  
Prerequisite: Studio in Art or Department  
Approval  
Examination: Project, Presentations and  
Research Paper*

This course will explore the creative root process of photography as it pertains to the creation and editing of digital images. Like the photographers of the past, students will explore photography through assignments relating to art photography, photojournalism and advertising. Students will use Adobe Photoshop to edit and prepare digital images and Microsoft PowerPoint for student presentations. Presentations will include critical peer feedback and thought provoking discussions focused on developing the skills of successful and reflective communication. Class projects will focus on use of the cam-

era and computer as creative tools for original work. Upon successful completion of this course students will have an understanding of visual and digital literacy as it is used in contemporary forms of communication, equipping them for college and the workplace. Equipment to be covered will include digital cameras, film cameras, scanners and color printers.

## **2-D MIXED-MEDIA DESIGN**

*Course No.: 826      Grades Offered: 10-12  
Credit: 1.0  
Prerequisite: Studio in Art or Department  
Approval  
Assessments: Projects, Presentations,  
Sketchbook/Journal*

Students will develop key understanding and skills in problem solving through exploring the relationship between digital and traditional modes of creating artwork. Students will discover how to express their ideas creatively using a variety of media such as collage, printmaking, photo-transfer, mixed media, animation, filmmaking, photography, drawing and painting. Skills will be developed in computer art, drawing, painting, photography and design. Presentations will include critical peer feedback and thought provoking discussions focused on developing the skills of successful and reflective communication. Class projects will focus on use of the computer and traditional art making materials to create conditions for creative problem solving with regard to producing original work. Upon successful completion of this course students will have an understanding of visual and digital literacy as it is used in contemporary forms of communication, equipping them for college and the workplace. A sketchbook/journal is a required component of this course.

## **MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE**

*Course No.: 827      Grades Offered: 10-12  
Credit: 1.0  
Prerequisite: Studio in Art or Department  
Approval  
Assessments: Projects, Presentations,  
Sketchbook/Journal*

This course will enable students to explore art in a 3-dimensional format utilizing a variety of sculptural materials and techniques. Modeling, sketch-

# The Arts: Visual Arts

ing and maquettes will be employed to solve problems and propose work as public sculpture. In addition to individual projects, the class will work towards creating a collaborative permanent sculpture to be installed at Harrison High School.

## IB VISUAL ARTS SL/HL YEAR 1

Course No.: 817 (HL) 815 (SL)

Grades Offered: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of one advanced art elective and Department Approval

Examination: Projects, Presentations, Investigative Workbook, and Portfolio

## IB VISUAL ARTS SL/HL YEAR 2

Course No.: 818 (HL) 816 (SL)

Grade Offered: 12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of IB Visual Arts SL/HL Year 1

Examination: Projects, Presentations, Investigative Workbook, Exhibition and Interview

Students will embark on a two-year course of study that will promote, en-

courage and facilitate the creation of a body of work that is directed by the interests and concerns of the student and his or her culture, but is informed by exposure to the interests and concerns of other individuals and cultures, present and past. An Investigative Workbook (sketchbook) will be utilized to initiate, record and develop areas of interest and curiosity as well as to develop concepts for completed works of art. Students are expected to investigate techniques, research and reflect upon the works of other artists and cultures, and reflect upon their work and the work of others. Student-selected concepts from the Investigative Workbook will be brought to completion as finished works of art. Students are encouraged to explore and work in a variety of media including 2D, 3D, digital media and photography.

Topics of instruction and study will include art history, contemporary art, non-western art, life drawing, landscape/cityscape, printmaking, personal

narrative in the visual arts, communicating through the visual arts, abstraction and alternative methods, photographing art work and the use of digital media to record and present work.

At the end of this two-year course of study, all students complete IB internal and external assessments. Students are assessed on selected pages from the Investigative Workbook, exhibition of selected pieces of art work and an interview with an IB examiner. For all components of the assessments, Higher Level candidates produce a larger body of work and work of greater depth than that required of Standard Level candidates.

*Seniors who have successfully completed Studio in Art and two Advanced Art Electives may complete IB Visual Arts SL/HL Year 1 and receive course credit, but will not be eligible for an IB Certificate of Completion.*

