

Humanities Requirements (Art and Music)

In order to obtain a ***Regents Diploma***, a student must earn one foundational art credit and one language credit. Students can choose from four foundation courses: Music Theory, Music in Our Lives, Studio Art, or Design, Drawing, and Production.

Studio in Art

Credit: 1

Weighting: 0

Course Description

This is an introductory foundation course that provides a multiplicity of visual experiences in drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. Studio in Art is a prerequisite to all other high school art courses. The goals of this course are:

1. to encourage a personal approach and interpretation, as well as develop related skills and techniques;
2. to assist the student in forming value judgements of diverse form and scope, of their own work and the work of others;
3. to provide opportunities to explore and use a wide variety of materials and tools.

Course Requirements

None

Ceramics I and II

Credit: .5 per semester

Weighting: 0

Course Description

This course provides a multiplicity of experiences in working with clay. It includes the use of the potters wheel, the creation of ceramic sculpture, and the use of ceramic glazes.

The goals of this course are:

1. to encourage a personal approach and interpretation, as well as develop related skills and techniques;
2. to assist the student in forming value judgements of diverse form and scope, of their own work and the work of others;
3. to provide opportunities to explore and use a wide variety of ceramics methods and tools.

Course Requirements

None

Drawing and Painting I and II

Credit: .5 per semester

Weighting: 0

Course Description

This is an advanced course for grades 10, 11, or 12 which may be elected after a student has completed ***Studio in Art***. This course provides a multiplicity of visual experiences in drawing and painting that are broad in scope and that will challenge the student's ability.

The goals of this course are:

1. to encourage a personal approach and interpretation, as well as develop related skills and techniques;
2. to assist the student in forming value judgements of diverse form and scope, of their own work and the work of others;
3. to provide opportunities to explore the use a wide variety of ceramics methods and tools.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Studio in Art

Studio in Sculpture*Credit: 1**Weighting: 0***Course Description**

This course provides an introduction to sculpture, emphasizing the understanding and manipulation of three-dimensional space using form and scale. Students explore various processes, materials, techniques, and tools. Competence in basic drawing is essential. Includes a historical overview.

The goals of this course are:

1. to develop an understanding of basic design principles with an emphasis on three-dimensional design;
2. to develop an understanding of the possibilities and limitations of various materials;
3. to develop skills in the use of basic tools, techniques, and processes to work from concept to finished product;
4. to develop visual, verbal, and written responses to visual phenomena, and organize perception both rationally and intuitively;
5. to make valid assessments of quality and effectiveness in three-dimensional design projects and works of art;
6. to develop the capacity for students to explain and defend their views effectively and rationally.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Studio in Art

Computer Graphics (AR 140)*Credit: 1**Weighting: 0/4***Course Description**

An introductory course for students with little or no computer graphics background. Students will learn how various computer software and hardware components can be used to enhance creative expression. Using Adobe Illustrator and Adobe Photoshop students will create and output professional quality graphics. This course is specially designed for those students needing to develop their creative abilities using the computer.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Studio in Art

Introduction to Film*Credit: 1**Weighting: 0/4***Course Description**

Communication systems is a hands-on course where students, using time tested production design methods and state of the art digital equipment, will design and produce both a radio and a video projects that would meet the same standards found in professional media production companies anywhere in the industry.

Course Requirements

None

Digital Photography and Graphic Design (AR 135)*Credit: 1**Weighting: 0/4***Course Description**

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of photography using the digital camera, photo editing software, and inkjet printing. The student will be instructed in the techniques of camera work, pre-visualization and how to make and present finished prints. A strong emphasis will be placed on developing aesthetic judgement through a series of assignments and critiques. Classroom lectures will be a combination of technical and aesthetic instruction and discussion on the history of photography as an art

form. Printmaking time is an integral part of the course, and facilities will be available outside of class hours.

Course Requirements

None

User Design and Experience

Credit: 1

Weighting: 0

Course Description

User Design and Experience: Design IUX (User experience design) is the process of planning the experience a person has when they interact with a product UI (User Interface) design is the user-centered approach to designing the aesthetics of a digital product. Students would learn how to research a company and their users. They would learn how to make personas, competitive audits, identify pain points and create wireframes. Students would take their knowledge and create a low fidelity prototype, test their work with a usability study and eventually make a high fidelity prototype. Students will become proficient in the use of Figma and Adobe UX.

Course Requirements

Prerequisites: Studio in Art, Digital Photography and Graphic Design

Visual Arts 3-D (AR 108)

Credit: 1

Weighting: 0

Course Description

Introduces the basic concepts and vocabulary for sculpture, architecture, product design, and other areas of three-dimensional design. Through a series of weekly assignments, using simple materials and methods students will investigate the formal qualities of objects. Developing an inventive approach to object making will be a principal goal of this course.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Studio in Art

Introduction to Piano

Credit: .5

Weighting: 0

Course Description

This course is designed for students who wish to develop basic piano skills and beginner technique. Students will gain an understanding of music theory as they learn to read and play music in different genres that is notated in both treble and bass clef. They will have the opportunity to improve their individual playing skills and learn effective practice techniques. In addition, students will play cooperatively in an ensemble and accompany others. Students will develop their performance skills by playing for their peers. At the end of the year, student's hard work will culminate in a full class piano recital. Additional performance opportunities may arise through the year for students that are interested in an extra challenge.

Course Requirements

None

Introduction to Theatre (TH 110)

Credit: .5

Weighting: 0/4

Course Description

Introduction to Theater is a course designed to introduce students to the world of theater. Exercises to build self-esteem, empathy, and teamwork are integrated into the course along with the technical aspects of

drama and stage production. This course will cover basic stage terms and theater etiquette, vocal and movement exercises for performance, and project based learning. Students will participate in theater both on stage and behind the scenes and assist with school productions and performances.

Course Requirements

None

Music in Our Lives

Credit: 1

Weighting: 0

Course Description

Music in our Lives is a course designed to examine music and its role in our lives. We will study the significance of music as a form of human expression and how it relates to our culture and other cultures. Curriculum will be developed based on the interests of the students enrolled in the course, and will incorporate collaborative and project-based learning.

Course Requirements

None

Music Theory

Credit: 1

Weighting: 0

Course Description

Music Theory examines the various elements of music and the ways in which these individual elements combine and interact to create a piece of music. In this course, students will become skilled at: reading notes in both treble and bass clef, constructing scales and relating them to key signatures, understanding rhythms in a variety of time signatures and will be proficient at playing all basic band instruments and keyboard at a beginning level. Students will be able to read, write and identify intervals, chords and progressions from different time periods. Music Theory is strongly encouraged for students who intend to pursue a Music Major in college. This course is a pre-requisite for AP Music Theory.

Course Requirements

None

AP Music Theory

Credit: 1

Weighting: 5

Course Description

The AP Music Theory Course corresponds to one or two semesters of a typical introductory college music theory course that covers topics such as musicianship skills, including dictation, analysis and other listening skills. Sight singing and harmony are considered an important part of the course. Through the course, students develop the ability to recognize, understand and describe basic materials and processes of tonal music that are heard or presented in a score. Development of aural skills is a primary objective. Performance is also a part of the curriculum through the practice of sight singing. Students understand basic concepts and terminology by listening to and performing a wide variety of music. Notational skills, speed and fluency with basic materials are also emphasized.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Music Theory

Senior Band

Credit: .5

Weighting: 0

Course Description

Senior Band is for students having acquired the skills necessary to play music of an upper high school level, as determined by the Band Director. Students in grades 9-12 will typically receive one group lesson

per week and the full band will rehearse on Monday, Wednesday and alternating Fridays. Senior Band may participate in any or all of the following: performing for school programs, graduation ceremonies, competing at contests, marching in parades, performing at sporting events, attending field trips, etc. Concerts: 7-12 Winter, 7-12 Spring, and 7-12 Theme Concert.
Other possible performances: NYSSMA Solo Festival, community events, Traveling Christmas Ensemble, etc.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: completion of Junior Band; teacher recommendation.

Senior Chorus

Credit: .5

Weighting: 0

Course Description

Students in Grades 9-12 are eligible to become a member of Senior Chorus where they will explore a variety of choral music styles in an ensemble setting. Working together as a team is an essential and necessary element of this class. Students will expand their music literacy skills learned in General Music, leading them to become a well-rounded musician. They will also expand their knowledge about their own voice, through further exploration of vocal technique, health, and pedagogy. Chorus will give students the skills to become a better musician and singer, as they will become well informed about their own voice as well as how to use their own voice while singing with others. Students will perform at the following Concerts: 7-12 Winter, 7-12 Spring, and 7-12 Theme and they will also have the option to perform at NYSSMA, All-County, Traveling Christmas Ensemble, or other community events.

Course Requirements

None

Humanities Requirements (Language)

In order to obtain a **Regents Diploma**, a student must earn one foundational art credit and **one language credit**. Students can choose from three foundation courses: Music Theory, Music in Our Lives, or Design, Drawing & Production.

While Spanish is the only language currently offered at WAJ, transfer students may have earned a credit in another language. Students must also pass the Checkpoint A assessment in World Languages, which is usually given after the first credit-bearing language course.

In order to obtain an **Advanced Regents Diploma**, a student must earn three language credits [in the same language] and pass both the checkpoint A and B assessments. Another option for earning the Advanced Regents Diploma is the completion of a 5-year sequence in the content area. (See your counselor for details). If the 5-year sequence is used instead of the three language credits, students will still need to earn one language credit in addition to the 5-year content sequence.

Spanish I

Credit: 1

Weighting: 0

Course Description

Spanish in the eighth grade is the second half of Spanish I (a continuation of LOTE 7) and will follow Check Point A of the New York State Syllabus. Upon the successful completion of seventh grade, eighth grade and the final exam at the end of eighth grade, students will gain one high school credit. This credit is necessary for high school graduation for all students in New York State. After Spanish I in the eighth grade, students may go on in their study of the language or leave the program. At the end of this course there will be a final exam which will be worth one fifth of the final grade. Upon a very successful experience in Spanish I, students will be recommended for Spanish II.

The main objective in Spanish I is to develop, reinforce, and refine the basic communicative skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in the target language. Cultural competency will also be developed and explored throughout the year. Spanish I is the 2nd part of a 2 year world language graduation requirement. Students are expected to pass this course, as well as the Checkpoint A final exam, in order to earn graduation credit.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Students must pass the local exam **AND** the course to receive credit.

Spanish II

Credit: 1

Weighting: 0

Course Description

The Spanish II class will follow Check point B of the New York State Syllabus and standards. Emphasis will be placed on complex grammar structures and some tenses, and a more in depth ability to communicate in all topics in Check points A and B. We will begin reading and listening to longer items of fiction and authentic resources, as well as expanding our vocabulary knowledge, concentrating on everyday occurrences in the past and present. Composition skills will become sharpened as we write longer passages as a preview of what will be expected in Spanish III. At the end of this course there will be a final exam fashioned much like the Spanish III exam with listening, reading, writing, and grammar components.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Students must have passed the Spanish I course and local exam.

Spanish III (SA 101 and 102)*Credit: 1**Weighting: 0/4***Course Description**

The Spanish III class will follow and complete all requirements of Check point B of the New York State Syllabus. Proficiency in this course consists of being able to read historical pieces of writing in Spanish and answer questions of comprehension, carry on conversations of at least six exchanges, write letters and compositions of 100 words, listen to radio and television broadcasts and have a broad knowledge of cultural nuances in language and practice. This course prepares students for the teacher's local final exam. The local exam replicates the former Regents Exam in format and standard with an additional part concentrating on grammar skills. Upon successful completion of the Spanish III course, students will have satisfied a foreign language sequences necessary for an Advanced Regents Diploma and will be well prepared for Spanish IV and V.

The main objective in Spanish III is to develop, reinforce, and refine the communicative skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in the target language. Cultural competency will also be developed and explored throughout the year. Spanish III is the 4th consecutive year of language learning here at WAJ, and the last of a 3 year sequence for the advanced regents diploma.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Spanish II

Spanish 201 (IV)*Credit: 1 (3 college credits)**Weighting: 4***Course Description**

After successfully completing Spanish III, students can go on to take SA 201 for the fall semester. This follows the checkpoint C standards of the New York State Syllabus, as well as the standards of Columbia-Greene Community College. This course is conducted completely in Spanish and is designed for the mature student who can work independently and wishes to perfect their language abilities. In this course we will have a brief review of grammatical concepts and vocabulary from previous years, as well as work on and use reflexive verbs, the future, present subjunctive, and present perfect tenses. We will focus on the four basic comprehension skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking, in order to raise our level of proficiency, in addition to expanding our cultural knowledge of the Hispanic world.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Spanish III; 80% GPA in the content area.

Spanish 202 (V)*Credit: 1 (3 college credits)**Weighting: 4***Course Description**

SA 202 (spring semester) is a continuation of SA 201, and will emphasize the four basic comprehension skills plus the use of the subjunctive through cultural readings and discussions. Class is conducted entirely in Spanish for extensive practice in listening and speaking skills. This course is conducted completely in Spanish and is designed for the mature student who can work independently and integrate knowledge and research to produce informative and interesting projects. This follows the checkpoint C standards of the New York State Syllabus, as well as the standards of Columbia-Greene Community College. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be awarded 3 college credits.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: SA 201; 80% GPA in the content area

English as a New Language

Credit: 1

Weighting: 0

Course Description

This course provides academic support for English Language Learners, including instruction in Basic English vocabulary.

Course Requirements

None