

Department of Fine and Applied Arts

Standards:

The Rhode Island Arts Standards were developed to ensure a quality arts education for all students. There are five standards which are common to all the arts.

1. **CREATION/PERFORMANCE** – All students will engage in self or group expression by creating original or interpreting works of art.
2. **PERCEPTION** – All students will observe and experience objects and ideas through a multitude of senses and form a sophisticated, informed response.
3. **CONTEXT** – All students will demonstrate an understanding of the relationships within personal, social, cultural, and historical contexts.
4. **TOOLS** – All students will develop the ability to communicate in the language of arts forms through the study and use of appropriate vocabulary, materials, tools, and techniques.
5. **INTEGRATION** – All students relate arts knowledge and skills within and across the arts and other content areas.

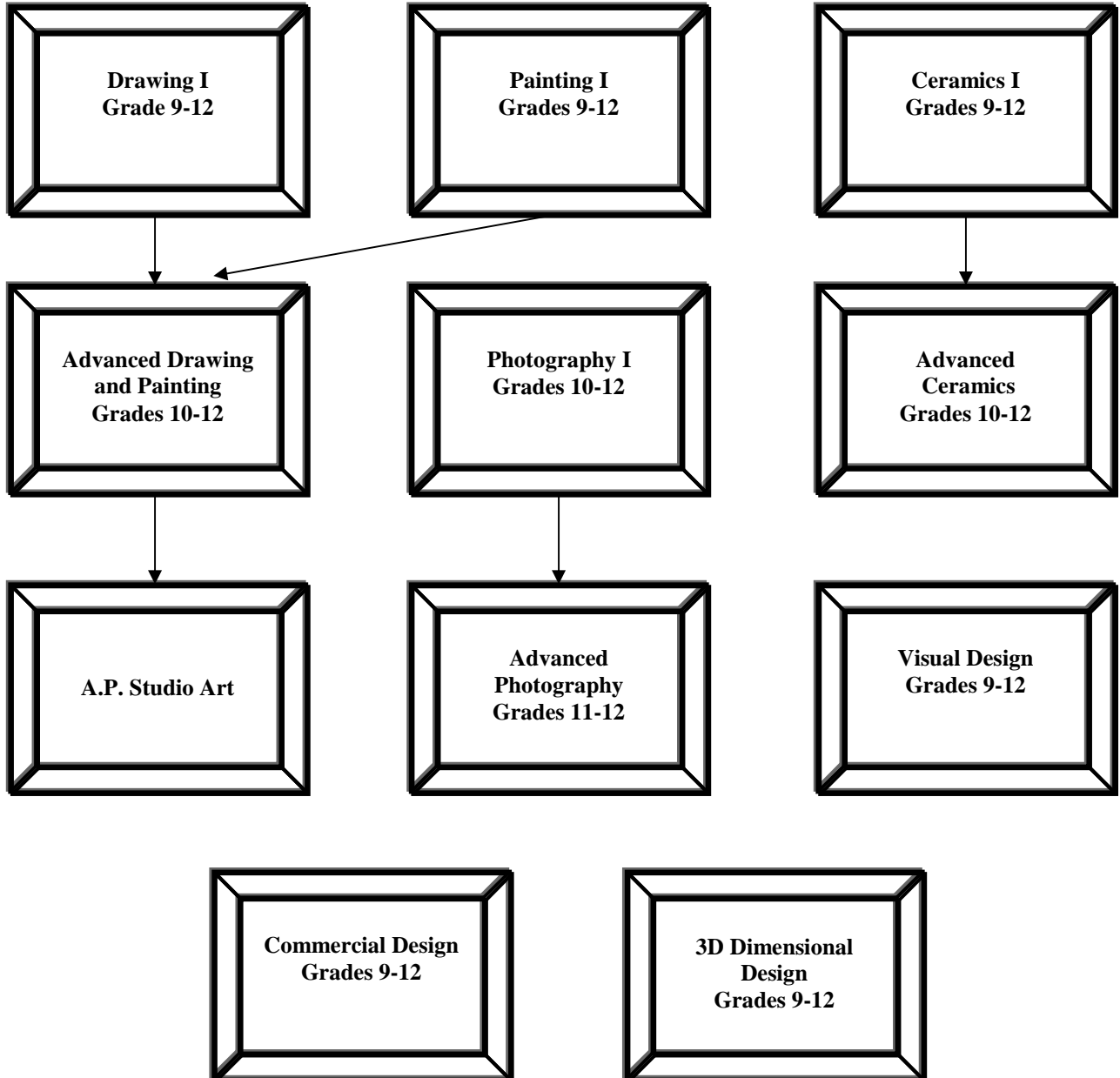
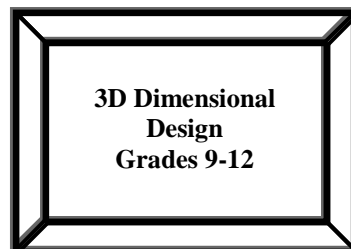
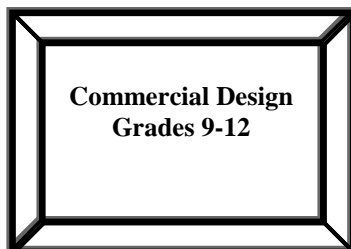
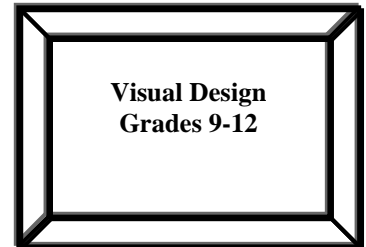
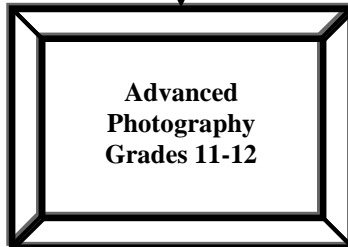
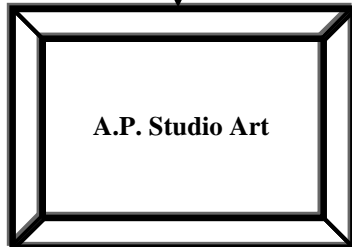
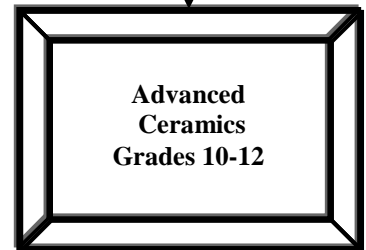
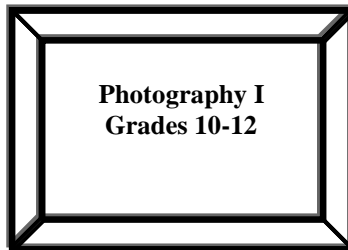
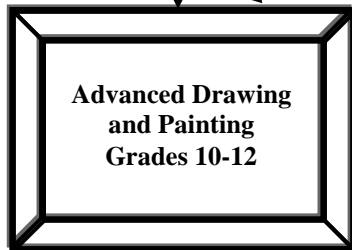
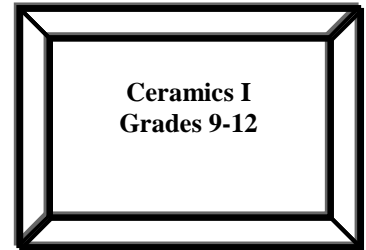
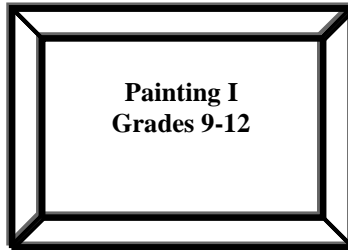
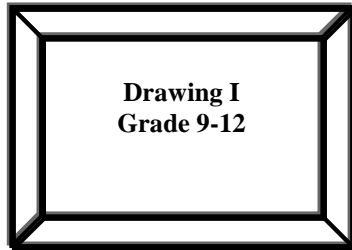
The arts teach divergent rather than convergent thinking. The arts ask students to come up with different, rather than similar solutions. Unlike many other subjects that students study, the arts usually do not demand one correct response. For every problem there may be many correct answers. This type of explorative learning does not mean that quality and expertise in art production and performance is ignored. This kind of reasoning is far more the call in the real world, where there are many ways to do one thing well. An effective work force needs many skills and kinds of reasoning.

The arts and music departments offer a variety of courses. Both disciplines follow the Rhode Island Arts Standards of creation and performance, perception, context, tools, and integration. These standards provide a framework for setting challenging and measurable achievements in the arts.

In the visual arts, most courses are open to all students at any grade level. Advanced courses require students to develop a body of work of individual interest and challenge. Students seriously interested in a career in the arts should consider scheduling Portfolio Development and Advanced Placement Studio Art during their junior and senior years.

The music program is for both the novice and advanced musician. Introduction to Instrumental Music, Guitar, Piano, and Computer Assisted Electronic Music course offerings encourage those students with limited music skills to become active participatory musicians. Middletown High School has both band and chorus programs. These outstanding performing groups demand a commitment from participating students. Those students seriously interested in a career in music are encouraged to take music theory course offerings.

ART



Art

Drawing I - half year - credits: .5

Drawing 1 is a studio course that explores drawing from life and building technical drawing skills based on the elements and principals of art, design and the history and aesthetics of drawing. Through the study of recognized artists, types of media that will be explored will include; sketching, drawing on collaged backgrounds, writing about art, developing art vocabulary, using technology in art, contour line drawing, gesture drawing, portraiture, landscape, adding color to drawings, pen and ink, charcoal, colored chalk as well as conte crayon. (9,10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1:Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A3: Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Painting I - half year - credits: .5

Painting 1 is a studio course that explores painting from life and building technical painting and illustration skills based on the elements and principals of art, design and color. Through the study of recognized artists and genres the history and aesthetics of painting will be incorporated within the exploration of visual thinking skills, technology and media used. Writing about painting, painting from life, learning about the processes of color, and building technical ability in the genera of painting with acrylics, watercolors, mixed media , critique and painting with inks will all incorporated into this course. (9,10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics, A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Ceramics - half year - credits: .5

This is a basic course in hand-building methods including pinch, coil, and slab techniques. Emphasis will be on the development of form and its relationship to functional and non-functional objects. Historical, multi-cultural and aesthetic aspects of the importance of ceramics to societies throughout the ages will be explored. Creative and flexible thinking will be encouraged through the production of objects and vessels in clay. (9,10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Photography - half year - credits: .5

In this foundation course, students will explore the art of photography. Students will develop an understanding of how the camera works, basic darkroom procedures, photographic composition, and historical, social, and contemporary issues in photography. (10, 11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information-research and problem solving, A3:

Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Commercial Design – half year – .5 credits

Commercial Design is a studio course which incorporates and mixes traditional media and non-traditional technology integrated design methods to create original and non-traditional graphic design artwork. PaintShop Pro, graphic arts software, web design software, digital scanning, digital camera usage will all be combined with the more traditional medias of calligraphy, illustration with watercolors, and bookmaking techniques. Students will create logos, advertisements, pamphlets, graphic inserts and other design projects related to the business of graphic and commercial design. They will combine these technology tools with traditional art and design methods to create original works. (9,10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A3:

Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Visual Design – half year – .5 credits

Want to know how contemporary artists create works of art? In this course, students will develop technical skills and will be encouraged to develop individual expression in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional projects. Students may use a variety of media, such as colored pencil, collage, mixed media, wire, metals, painting media, found objects, paper-mache, etc. in their approach to creative design problems. Students will have the opportunity to explore contemporary, historical, personal and aesthetic issues in the context of their own artwork. (9, 10, 11, 12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A3:

Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Three-Dimensional Design - half year - credits: .5

Three-Dimensional Design is a studio course that gives students the opportunity to create, plan, document and design three dimensional forms in art based on the elements and principals of art and design. Non-representational art work, representational sculpture, art work and forms created from man-made and natural collections will be explored in this course. Project materials

will include paper mache, paper, cardboard, sculptural found items, recycled materials, wire, and other donated goods. (9, 10, 11, 12).

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A3: Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Advanced Drawing and Painting – half year – credits .5

Advanced drawing and painting is a studio course that will afford the student with an opportunity to pursue advanced explorations of various two dimensional design concepts based on the elements and principals of art and design. Drawing and painting from life, figure drawing, expressive color theory, advanced compositions, Expressive portraiture, landscape, interiors and the still-life will all be explored in relation to the study of recognized artists and genres. Projects using a variety of media materials like charcoal, oil pastel, chalk, pen and ink, oil, watercolor and acrylic paints will be investigated which will incorporate drawing, painting, and illustration.

(10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A3: Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Advanced Ceramics - half year - credits: .5

Advanced Ceramics builds upon the variety of techniques and skills to further explore the concepts established in ceramics. Emphasis on hand building and wheel thrown forms will strengthen personal expression. Individual solutions to design problems with emphasis on experimentation and critical analysis will help enhance creativity and strengthen understanding of 3-dimensional form. . (10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A3: Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Advanced Photography - half year - credits: .5

This course builds upon Photography I to refine and expand photographic vision and technical skills. Advanced techniques, both with the camera and in the darkroom will be introduced. Students will study the works of other photographers on the photographic image as an art form. Portfolio development and career opportunities will be addressed in this advanced photography course. (10,11,12) May be retaken with permission of instructor and department head.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A3: Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Advanced Placement Studio Art - full year - credits: 1

AP Studio Art is a challenging college level class designed by the College Board. AP Studio Art is designed for art students who are seriously interested in the practice of art. Students should be aware that Advanced Placement course work involves significantly more time than the typical high school art course, and that the program is not for the casually interested. Students will continue to develop, create, and perfect their art and slide portfolios during this yearlong process. The Advanced Placement Art Program includes an in-depth study of the historical and aesthetical aspects

of the arts, as well as a rich integration of technology within the arts. Only students who have established a record of high achievement in art are admitted to this course. This class utilizes texts, documents and a rigorous pace that correlate to the standards and expectations established by the College Board for Advanced Placement study in this discipline. A direct goal of this course is to help ensure success on the Advanced Placement Exam given in May. This exam may lead to college credit.

To receive an AP designation on their transcript, student must take the AP exam in May. A fee is required to take the AP exam. Students must commit to this by October 1.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A3: Technology Literacy, C2: Personal ethics, S1: Demonstrate responsibility

Music

Band
Grades 9-12

Chorus
Grades 9-12

Choral Ensemble
Grades 9-12

Music Theory
Grades 10-12

Guitar
Grades 9-12

Piano
Grades 9-12

Music Theory II
Grades 10-12

Guitar II
Grades 9-12

Electronic Music
Grades 9-12



M u s i c

Note: Several classes within the Music Department require students to commit to both out of school rehearsals and performances

MHS Band - full year - credits: 1

Concert Band is open to all students with prior instrumental experience. Students will develop instrumental ensemble performance skills while being introduced to a varied repertoire. Concert Band students are taught the fundamentals of good ensemble playing such as posture, dynamics, intonation, phrasing, balance, tone, articulation, and musicality. Members of the concert band are expected to practice daily, attend all rehearsals and performances and show continuous improvements throughout the year. This course is performance oriented. Performances are the final outcome of the student's in-school instruction. Therefore all performances are mandatory and are a large percentage of the students' grade. We believe that successful completion of a middle school band program is an essential foundation for those electing this course. (9, 10, 11, 12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics, S2: Demonstrate Teamwork Skills

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, S1:

Demonstrate responsibility, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health

MHS Chorus - full year - credits: 1

A varied repertoire of choral music will be introduced and studied throughout the school year. Students will develop choral techniques and skills such as breath support, intonation, phrasing, proper posture, tonal production and placement, balance, dynamics, diction, sight singing and musicality. Members of the Chorus are expected to practice daily, attend all rehearsals and performances and show continuous improvements throughout the year. This course is performance oriented. Performances are the final outcome of the student's in-school instruction. Therefore all performances are mandatory and are a large percentage of the students' grade. Participation in chorus will be made on an elective/selective basis. We believe that successful completion of a middle school chorus program is an essential foundation for those electing this course. (9, 10, 11, 12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving,

S2: Demonstrate teamwork skills, S1: Demonstrate responsibility, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health

Choral Ensemble –full year – credits: 1 – (students must be auditioned)

Select choir is for students who have advanced singing ability. Students will be auditioned to enter this class. The course provides each student with an opportunity to study and perform a variety of challenging literature. This course will also allow students to further develop and make more efficient use of their vocal instrument. Students will further develop the four basic

principles of singing; respiration, phonation, resonance, and articulation as well as continued study of basic vocal production and musical interpretation. This course is performance oriented. Performances are the final outcome of the student's in-school instruction. Therefore all performances are mandatory and are a large percentage of the students' grade. Students must learn the chorus repertoire as well and perform with the MHS Chorus. We believe that successful completion of a middle school chorus program is an essential foundation for those electing this course.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, S2:

Demonstrate teamwork skills, S1: Demonstrate responsibility, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health

Guitar - half year - credits: .5

This class will introduce the students to beginning guitar instruction. The course will cover tuning, playing simple melodies, primary chords and ensemble experience. Students will also gain knowledge of reading and understanding musical notation. This course is limited to 12 students. This activity-oriented course is for the student who lacks a formal background in applied music student. No experience necessary. (9,10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy skills, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, S2:

Demonstrate teamwork skills, S1: Demonstrate responsibility, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health

Piano - half year - credits: .5

Note: May be retaken with the permission of the instructor and department head.

An introductory course teaching student's basic piano technique. Students will learn all about the keyboard and to read music. Students will become familiar with the piano keyboard by playing a variety of finger exercises, chord exercises, and many songs. This activity-oriented course is for the student who lacks formal background in applied music study. No experience necessary. (9,10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, S1: Demonstrate responsibility, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health, C2: Personal ethics

Electronic Music – half year – credits: .5

This course offering is a “hands on” studio course designed for students with little or no experience in music. Students become familiar with the basic components (synthesizers,

amplifiers, reel-to-reel recorders, and other recording equipment) of the electronic lab. Through the use of this equipment, students will learn to improvise and create their own electronic composition. No experience necessary. (9,10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy Skills, A3: Technology Literacy, S1: Demonstrate responsibility, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health, C2: Personal ethics

Guitar II – half year – credits: .5

This course will help students improve their playing skills on the guitar learning more complex rhythms and chordal accompaniments as well as playing melody and mixed harmony/melody lines. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to perform and accompany themselves and perform as part of a group. This activity-oriented course is for the student who has learned the basics of music reading and guitar and wish to advance and hone their skills. We believe that successful completion of Guitar I is an essential foundation for those selecting this course. (9,10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A: Literacy Skills, S1: Demonstrate responsibility, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health, C2: Personal ethics

Music Theory - full year - credits: 1

This class is open to all students who have a desire to learn about the basic elements of music writing. Class work will be reinforced by use of various computer programs. This course is strongly recommended for all vocal and instrumental students. (10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy skills, S1: Demonstrate responsibility, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health

Music Theory II - full year - credits: 1

Note: We believe successful completion of Music Theory I is an essential foundation for those electing this course.

In Music Theory II, the main emphasis is placed upon using materials learned in the first year course through the process of musical composition. Students will start with exercises in two-part counterpoint. As the student gains more skill, progression on three-part counterpoint is made. Analysis of various music examples will be studied and listened to in class. The canon and other imitative styles will be written and studied by each of the students. Various computer programs will be used to reinforce class work. (10,11,12)

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A4: Understanding of Aesthetics

Secondary: A1: Literacy skills, S1: Demonstrate responsibility, A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health