



## Art DEPARTMENT

The art program offers numerous discipline-based courses aimed at expanding students' skill development and conceptual understanding in art production, aesthetic judgment, art criticism and art history. The purpose of this program of study is to enrich students' lives through their engagement in the many functions and forms of authentic arts-based learning.

### Graduation Requirements

New York State requires all students to successfully achieve one credit of art or music for graduation. Please note the Studio in Art course is the prerequisite to all other high school art courses. An introductory foundation course, Studio in Art is designed to address the New York State Standards for Art Education at the commencement level while providing an overview of the major areas of concentration in visual and fine art. The standards are:

- Standard 1** — Students will actively engage in the processes that constitute creation and performance in the arts.
- Standard 2** — Students will be knowledgeable about and make use of the materials and resources available for participation in the arts in various roles.
- Standard 3** — Students will respond critically to a variety of works in the arts, connecting the individual work to other works and to other aspects of human endeavor and thought.
- Standard 4** — Students will develop an understanding of the personal and cultural forces that shape artistic communication and how the arts in turn shape the diverse cultures of past and present society.

### Art as a Sequence of Study

Students planning to major in art must have at least a three-unit sequence of art courses and, if pursuing the Advanced Regents Diploma, a five-unit sequence of art courses. The sequence generally begins in the 9th grade with Studio in Art. The student should then schedule as many art courses as possible during the next three years. Students may fulfill the three-unit sequence by pursuing any combination of advanced art electives in the visual arts that total three units, including: fine art, media art and three-dimensional art offerings. **At least two years of the Advanced Art Studio course are recommended for a student to prepare a portfolio of artwork needed for college, art school admissions, or AP portfolio submission.**

### Fine Art as a Sequence of Study

In addition, students may pursue a five-unit sequence for an Advanced Regents Diploma in the fine arts by taking a combination of art and music courses. The combination must consist of Studio in Art and/or a musical knowledge and attitude development course, along with any combination of electives from the art and music offerings totaling five units.

Students may also fulfill the sequence requirement by taking Studio in Art from the art department and the full-year Design and Drawing for Production or Architectural Drawing from the Technology

department, along with a combination of electives from the art offerings totaling five units.

### Advanced Regents Diploma

If pursuing the Advanced Regents Diploma, students must choose one of the following sequences:

- *Fine Arts – Studio in Art and four units of art and/or music courses*
- *Visual Art – A five-unit sequence beginning with Studio in Art*
- *Music – The five-unit music sequence*
- *Career and Technical Education (CTE)*
- *Language Other Than English (LOTE) – A sequence totaling three units*

(Note: Successful completion of the language competency exam at the end of the 8th grade meets the one unit of LOTE required for graduation.)

### Student Supplies

Some art courses require the purchase of certain consumable supplies that will be used exclusively by your student. A list of these supplies, and local stores where the supplies may be purchased, will be provided during the first class meeting. These supplies may also be made available for purchase through the district. These materials and the resulting artwork are the personal property of your student.

*No student shall be excluded from participation due to financial hardship. Financial assistance in providing supplies or meeting these costs is available for those who qualify. For information, please contact Scott Walroth, Director of Art at 382-2511, extension 21738.*

### Art elective courses offered for a full year (1 credit):

Title	Grades Offered	Prerequisite
Studio in Art	9 - 12	None
Drawing and Painting	10 - 12	Studio in Art
Advanced Art Studio (Honors)	10 - 12	Drawing & Painting (prerequisite) OR Portfolio Review and Instructor's Permission under special circumstances

**ALL ADVANCED ART ELECTIVES (see description on page 14)**

### Art elective courses offered for a semester (1/2 credit):

Title	Grades Offered	Prerequisite
Photography I	10 - 12	Studio in Art
Photography II	10 - 12	Photography I
Studio in Video I	10 - 12	Studio in Art
Studio in Video II	10 - 12	Studio in Video I
Ceramics I	10 - 12	Studio in Art
Ceramics II	10 - 12	Ceramics I
Jewelry and Metal Work I	10 - 12	Studio in Art
Jewelry and Metal Work II	10 - 12	Jewelry and Metal Work I
Sculpture	10 - 12	Studio in Art
Studio in Computer Arts	10 - 12	Studio in Art
Studio in Graphic Design	10 - 12	Studio in Art



## 51020 STUDIO IN ART

1 year	1 credit	Grades 9-12
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This studio course is the comprehensive foundation for all secondary school art. Studio in Art is a prerequisite to all other high school art courses. In this course, students will have a brief exposure to 2- and 3-dimensional art, including painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, computer art and digital photography, design and art history. The exposure to these areas in the excitement of a studio atmosphere will encourage the development of concepts and skills in the visual arts and appreciation of world arts and cultures. This course is further designed to develop an understanding of art for students as a life-long learning and engagement process. Students will discover the many ways in which they can be artists.

## 51220 DRAWING AND PAINTING

1 year	1 credit	Grades 10-12
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The Drawing and Painting course is designed for students whose primary interest in art lies in two-dimensional expression. Its concern is with drawing, painting, and printmaking mediums and their skills and concepts. Its purpose is to provide opportunity for the acquisition and development of basic draftsmanship, composition and the application of color theory. Its scope includes acquisition of basic drawing and painting skills, composition, and the use of color in several media including acrylic polymer, charcoal, mixed media, pencil and watercolor.

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art*

## 51500 SCULPTURE

1 semester	1/2 credit	Grades 10-12
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The course offers an extension of the three-dimensional concepts, materials, processes and techniques explored briefly in the foundation course, Studio Art. Students will build upon previous experiences, as well as be introduced to new media and tools for expression in sculptural form. Ceramics, metal working copper enameling, wire brazing, found objects, stained glass, moldmaking, plaster and stone carving are some of the many exciting materials that will be used to create sculpture. In addition to the creation of three-dimensional works of art, students will learn about art and artists from various time periods, places and cultures. This exposure will enhance students' ability to explore and express themselves through the qualities of their artwork, as well as ideas and perspectives shared during class discussion.

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art*

## 51100 CERAMICS I

1 semester	1/2 credit	Grades 10-12
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The course offers students the opportunity to experiment and explore the many processes and techniques of working with clay. Students will be exposed to historical and contemporary examples of design in pottery and ceramic sculpture that will be studied as students engage in their production of clay sculpture. In addition to learning various (clay) hand building approaches to pottery, and throwing on the potters wheel, students will learn the basic techniques of glazing and other surface treatments that can be applied to pottery and ceramic sculpture.

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art*

## 51120 CERAMICS II

1 semester	1/2 credit	Grades 10-12
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Students will continue to explore further possibilities in the area of clay pottery and ceramic sculpture. New materials and processes will be introduced such as stone, plaster, mold making, casting and carving techniques. There will be an emphasis on the development of awareness of sculptural form, thinking in three dimensions, and mastering the use of sculptural materials and tools.

*Prerequisite: Ceramics I*

## 51300 JEWELRY AND METAL WORK I

1 semester	1/2 credit	Grades 10-12
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This course offers students the opportunity to explore and experiment with a variety of processes and techniques as they develop an understanding of design concepts of jewelry, metalworking and sculpture. The materials and techniques range from: silver, copper, brass, enameling, brazing, soldering, polymer clay, and ceramic clay to plaster and glass. The course will prepare students with a foundation of the fundamental skills and design concepts for Jewelry and Metal Work II.

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art*

## 51320 JEWELRY AND METAL WORK II

1 semester	1/2 credit	Grades 10-12
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Students will continue to explore further possibilities in working with metals, clays and stone, as well as new materials and techniques such as wood, plaster and casting. The emphasis is placed on developing their awareness of sculptural form, thinking in three dimensions and mastering the use of sculptural materials and tools.

*Prerequisite: Jewelry and Metal Work I*

## 51400 PHOTOGRAPHY I

1 semester	1/2 credit	Grades 10-12
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Students will learn basic darkroom techniques, including developing black and white film, enlarging prints and making aesthetic evaluation of work through critiques. Composition, subject selection, tonal values and print quality will be stressed. It is strongly recommended that each student have the use of a 35mm camera with adjustable shutter, F stop, etc., The photography course will require work outside of regular class time.

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art*

► Art Department, continued

## 51420 PHOTOGRAPHY II

1 semester                      1/2 credit                      Grades 10-12

Students will learn alternative darkroom techniques, including posterization, solarization of their digital images, as well as creative digital enhancement and manipulation using Adobe Photoshop. It is preferred that each student have the use of either a 35mm SLR camera with adjustable shutter, F stop, etc., or a digital camera. The photography course will require work outside of regular class time.

*Prerequisite: Photography I*

## 51700 STUDIO IN VIDEO I

1 semester                      1/2 credit                      Grades 10-12

This short film making course is designed to introduce the student to the basic techniques of using video as a media for creative expression. It includes writing, planning, producing and directing. Editing and dubbing techniques will also be explored. Past and present films will be shown to expose students to film as art. Designed as an art course, this might be of interest to the English or history student who wishes to explore a new means of expressing his/her ideas. Although it is helpful if students have access to a camcorder, video equipment can be signed out for assignments through the school. This course will require work outside of regular class time.

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art*

## 51720 STUDIO IN VIDEO II

1 semester                      1/2 credit                      Grades 10-12

This video film making course is a continuation of Studio In Video I. Students may explore various techniques such as claymation, computer animation, stop-action presentation and several other techniques possible with this media. Although it is helpful if students have access to a camcorder, video equipment can be signed out through the school for assignments. This course will require work outside of regular class time.

*Prerequisite: Studio In Video I*

## 51600 STUDIO IN COMPUTER ARTS

1 semester                      1/2 credit                      Grades 10-12

This elective course will teach the elements and principles of design through the medium of computers and digital technology. It is intended for the student who is interested in learning about new technologies and using them to create art in immediate and real-life ways. Students will learn the following:

- The use of digital cameras, flatbed scanners, Wacom tablets, Adobe Photoshop software, and Painter software to explore digital imagery
- The production of logos and graphic design work using Adobe Illustrator software
- Two-dimensional animation, editing, and sound sampling with Adobe Flash

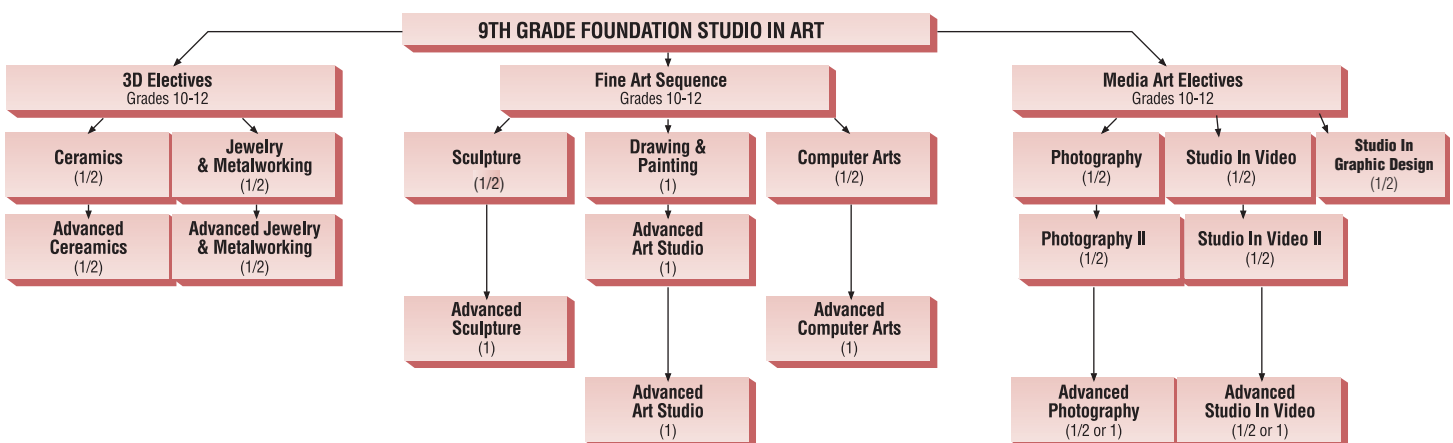
*Prerequisite: Studio in Art. A digital camera is suggested but will not be required.*

## 51800 STUDIO IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

1 semester                      1/2 credit                      Grades 10-12

This course will teach the fundamentals of graphic design through the creative process of combining art and technology to communicate ideas. It is intended for the student who is interested in learning about visual communication, which includes typography, product design, book/page design, advertising and web design. Students will learn the visual problem-solving process of following a concept through its initial creation to the finished product, using Adobe Photoshop, ImageReady and Illustrator.

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art.*



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## ADVANCED STUDY IN ART

All students must have previous experience in the subject area they choose; recommended preparation is a minimum B average in preparatory courses. These are advanced studio courses in which the talented or highly-motivated art student can work in a heavily enriched program. The student may choose the area that he/she wishes to concentrate in. All advanced courses may be taken for as many semesters as the student chooses. All advanced art courses are honors level.

### 51450 ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY H

1 YEAR	1 credit	Grades 11-12
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This course is designed to help students build design skills, including the ability to research, plan, and execute work in a systematic manner. Each assignment contains a degree of flexibility, giving students choice of subject matter. Students may choose to use either a 35mm SLR or digital camera to photograph imagery.

*Prerequisite: Photo II and/or portfolio review and instructor's permission under special circumstances.*

*A commitment to the photo process is mandatory.*

### 51040 ADVANCED ART STUDIO H

1 year	1 credit	Grades 10-12
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Open to students recommended by an art teacher, department director or parent.

- This course should be taken for two consecutive years.
- An enriched studio situation for students doing advanced work in a variety of 2-D and 3-D art media.
- Art majors wishing to improve their skills in various art media with an emphasis on drawing and painting, three-dimensional work and mixed media.
- Students developing portfolios for college, art school or AP consideration.
- Students may choose to prepare and submit an AP Drawing Portfolio at the end of their second year in the course or their senior year. The portfolio requires 24 unique works of art.
- This course **will require** work outside of regular class time.

*Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting and/or portfolio review and instructor's permission under special circumstances*

### 51660 ADVANCED STUDIO IN COMPUTER ARTS H

1 year	1 credit	Grades 10-12
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This course is created for the aspiring digital artist. Students will be involved in the process of developing specific project goals each quarter with continued emphasis on building their artistic and technical skills through related software programs. Students may focus on graphic design, computer fine art or two-dimensional animation. Portfolio preparation for college will be developed and completed by the end of the course.

*Prerequisite: Studio in Computer Arts.*



## ADDITIONAL ADVANCED ART COURSE OFFERINGS

Depending on enrollment, students enrolled in the following courses may meet in regular sections of each, but will follow an advanced curriculum. All advanced students will be required to provide similar supplies to those required for the prerequisite courses.

1 year	1 credit	Grades 10-12
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### 51340 ADVANCED JEWELRY H

### 51520 ADVANCED SCULPTURE H

### 51160 ADVANCED CERAMICS H

### 51760 ADVANCED STUDIO IN VIDEO H

- Niskayuna High School art students may apply for school credit for course work taken outside of school such as Sage College's "Summer Arts Program," New York State's "Summer School of the Arts," private lessons, etc.
- Programs with which we are familiar and that provide documentation for and evaluation of student work accomplished in their program will be granted credit with prior approval of the art director.
- Students taking other programs that do not provide us with that information, or with which we are not familiar, must present a portfolio of their work to the art director. The director will evaluate the work and decide whether or not school credit may be granted for the work accomplished in that particular program.
- Prior approval must be granted by the art director if students wish to be considered for school credit.