

**EAST LONGMEADOW HIGH SCHOOL
ART DEPARTMENT COURSES**

ART 1

GRADE	CREDITS
9, 10, 11, 12	4

This course is designed to give students a basic understanding and appreciation for art as it will be encountered on the high school level and beyond. Art I, and the other art courses offered, will give students the background necessary to appreciate visual art, participate in the creation of visual art, or seek further training for a career in the visual arts. Art 1 is planned to meet the needs of students of all artistic ability levels.

The course emphasizes skills development and development of the creative thought process. Each time a skill has been learned, students will be encouraged to make creative applications of those skills. Students will be given a sense of art history, through discussion and showing of visuals that relate to the studio projects they are working on. A variety of materials will be used. Some of the techniques, ideas and materials that may be included are color theory, rendering, perspective drawing, design, composition, acrylic paint, calligraphy and ceramic clay.

All students will maintain a sketchbook and a portfolio of completed projects (to monitor progress). Grading is based on timely completion of homework, creative application of skills on project.

ART 2

GRADE	CREDITS
9,10, 11, 12	4

Prerequisite: “ C-“ or better in Art 1.

This studio course is planned so that students will learn additional techniques and creative thought processes as well as new applications for the skills and concepts learned in Art 1. This will result in students having larger repertoires of responses for solving creative problems, and having a greater understanding and appreciation of the visual arts. Students who have successfully completed Art I will have the background knowledge and skills necessary for this course.

The content of Art 2 will focus on the understanding and use of various aspects of two and three-dimensional art and art history, and may include drawing, painting, sculpture, print making and pottery. Some of the materials and techniques that may be included are acrylic paint, drawing, ceramic sculpture, screen-printing, block printing and hand-built pottery.

All students will maintain a sketchbook and a portfolio of completed projects (to monitor progress). Grading is based on timely completion of homework, creative application of skills on projects.

ART 3

GRADE	CREDITS
9,10, 11, 12	4

Prerequisite: “B-“ or better in Art 2.

The studio course will require that students play a large role in setting the educational goals that are necessary for their continued growth in the visual arts. Students who have successfully completed Art 2 will have the background knowledge and skills necessary for this course.

The semester will be divided into segments of time when the focus will be in a general area of art, for example, drawing, painting, collage, printmaking and sculpture. Specific goals and assignments will be worked out on an individual basis between student and instructor. New techniques will be taught as needed, and creative exploration of ideas and techniques will be strongly encouraged. Some of the techniques and materials that may be used are acrylic paint, water color, pastel, charcoal, scratch board, colored pencils, sculpture, and print making.

Student progress will be continually monitored in this studio course, and individual evaluations of student progress will be done as necessary. This may be initiated by the student or the instructor. Grading is based on the student's progress towards learning, and creative application of skills.

ART 4/5

GRADE	CREDITS
10,11, 12	4

Prerequisite: “B-“ or better in Art 3 and permission of instructor

This studio course is designed to develop and encourage the artistic ability and interest students have gained in Art 3 and earlier art courses. The Art 4 curriculum is planned to encourage individual exploration of a variety of concepts and media.

Students will have a pre-course conference with Visual Arts teachers where a minimum of five student works are reviewed.

Students will learn to develop an individual plan of study; produce visual artworks; analyze, interpret and evaluate works of art; and gain an understanding of the creative expression of other periods and cultures. There will be a major emphasis on the development of a portfolio, which will deal with well-developed themes. Students who

intend to study art beyond high school will develop and photograph a portfolio suitable for college application.

Students will be evaluated on the following: evidence of successful mastery of techniques and materials, their ability to be visually expressive and responsive, their proficiency in exercising their imaginations, and their understanding of the visions and expressions of themselves and others. Students who are intending to major in Art in college should plan for extra work to develop a portfolio suitable for college application.