

## ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Graduation Requirement: 2 semesters Humanities-UHS

### HUMANITIES

Other courses which will be accepted in lieu of humanities are SPANISH III, FRENCH III, LATIN III, CREATIVE WRITING, LITERATURE OF FILM, or MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS, ADV SPEECH/DEBATE.

#### CHORUS (CHORUS)

Grades 9-12 Elective 1 Year

Chorus is an introductory class to the choral art form and the basic vocal techniques of good healthy singing. It provides students with an opportunity to make music with their voices using a variety of musical styles ranging from classical, sacred and secular to musical theatre. Students will rehearse standard choral repertoire for a minimum of two (2) required evening performances. Emphasis will be placed on proper performance practices for both the art of solo and group vocal performance. No previous choral experience is necessary. **Meets the UC/CSU Visual & Performing Arts requirement.**

#### ADVANCED WOMEN'S CHOIR (ADV WOM CHOIR)

Grades 9-12 UHS Elective 1 Year

PREREQUISITE: Previous singing experience and/or audition by instructor. Advanced Women's Choir is designed for the singer with previous choral experience. In this class we will continue developing the choral art form through the study of a variety of compositions both sacred and secular. Emphasis will be placed on the continued development of healthy vocal technique, sight-reading skills, diction, and music theory. There will be a minimum of five (5) required evening performances during the school year plus additional performances in the wider community. **Meets the UC/CSU Visual & Performing Arts requirement.**

#### CHAMBER CHOIR (CHAMBER CHOIR) (Not available 2009-2010)

Grades 9-12 (by audition only) Elective 1 Year

Chamber Choir is a performance class for the student with a specific interest in and aptitude for vocal music. Chamber Choir students practice and perform a broad range of SATB choral literature and are comprehensively trained in all skills required for the singing performer. The student will learn the correct way to produce vocal sound that is both properly supported and pleasing to the ear. This course enables students to develop their skills in sight-reading, ear training, and music theory. Students will gain substantial performance experience. Chamber Choir meets all the state standards for Performing Arts in vocal music. **Meets the UC/CSU Visual & Performing Arts requirement.**

#### DRAMA- ADVANCED DRAMA (DRAMA-ADV DRAMA)

Grades 10-12 Elective 1 Year

**Meets the UC/CSU Visual & Performing Arts requirement.**

#### DRAMA (DRAMA)

Grades 10-12 Elective 1 Semester

In this course, students will learn basic acting skills, including elements of stage movement, mime and voice. Students will participate in improvisation exercises and will also perform scenes and monologues from plays. They will be introduced to technical elements of theater, particularly scenery and costume design. The course will also provide students an opportunity to see and critique plays performed in the community and to read a variety of plays, both contemporary and historical.

#### ADVANCED DRAMA (ADV DRAMA)

Grades 10-12 Elective 1 Semester

This course will provide an in-depth study of acting methods and opportunity to develop skills which build on the foundation of the beginning drama class. In a workshop format, students will gain extensive experience in applying techniques through the performance of scenes and short plays and in incorporating feedback from several angles. Though the class will emphasize acting, it will also cover the basics of directing, producing, stage managing and other technical aspects of theater production. Performance for audiences outside of the class is required.



**GRAPHIC DESIGN** (GRAPHIC DESIGN)

Grades 11-12 Elective 1 Year

**PREREQUISITE:** Computer-Based Design or Studio Art

Graphic Design involves a world of dynamic concepts and ever-changing ideas. It is the process of visual communication that runs throughout our daily lives, whether it is as simple as a traffic sign or as complex as sign language. The basic teaching methods will revolve around personal and innovative thought in visual problem solving. This course will emphasize conceptual thinking through research-based problem solving and creativity that pushes the student to "think outside the box". This course is designed to prepare and motivate students to pursue the graphic design field as a career. Projects will vary from free-hand drawings to computer-based designs using programs such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. **Meets the UC/CSU Visual & Performing Arts requirement.**

**PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLE** (ENSEMBLE/ORCHESTRA)

(String Ensemble and Wind Ensemble)

Grades 9-12 1 Year

**PREREQUISITE:** At least two years of music instruction or consent of instructor.

Instruments that qualify are wind ensemble (brass, woodwind, percussion) or string ensemble (violin, cello, base violin).

Performance ensemble is a one-year course open to all students with an intermediate or higher performance level on their instrument. Students will perform medium to difficult high school literature across a range of musical styles. Organization of the class will depend on enrollment and ability levels. Performance opportunities will be included in the curriculum for the year. **Meets the UC/CSU Visual & Performing Arts requirement.**

**ACOUSTIC GUITAR** (ACOUST GUITAR)

Grades 10-12 Elective 1 Year or 1 Semester

This course is intended for guitar players of all abilities and interests. The class will include developing repertoire in many styles, as well as scale and music theory. The instructor will assess each student's abilities and knowledge at the beginning of the semester, and start from there in designing a program for that particular student. The emphasis will be on understanding the guitar as both a rhythm and lead instrument, and will include instruction in playing both open and closed chord positions, improvisational soloing, and learning songs for pleasure and performance. This class will include time for practice and self study so the student can develop their guitar playing skills in their own way and toward their personal goals established by the student and teacher.

**VPA PERFORMANCE GUITAR** (VPA PERF GUITAR)

Grades 10-12 1 Year

This course will allow the guitar student to learn fundamentals of music as they apply to the guitar while building a performance repertoire. Each student will receive an assessment at the beginning of the year and a planned course of study tailored to his strengths and interests. Emphasis will be placed on playing the guitar solo and with an ensemble both as a rhythm and lead instrument. This class will include time for practice and self study in addition to class lectures. Performance opportunities will be included in the curriculum for the year. **Meets the UC & CSU Visual and Performing Arts requirement.**

**SCHOOL NEWSPAPER** (SCHOOL NEWSPAPER)

Grades 10-12 Elective 1 Year

**PREREQUISITE:** Interested students must submit an application and have an interview. The class is limited to 24 students.

The purposes of this course are twofold: To study the techniques, methods, history and future of journalism; to produce a student publication(s). The course is, therefore, both theoretical and practical.

**BEGINNING PHOTOGRAPHY** (PHOTO 1)

Grades 12 Elective 1 Semester

This course is intended for the student who wishes to enter the world of photography and photographic expression. The class stresses hands-on experience through camera use and darkroom work in the black and white medium. Class lectures and demonstrations cover the rudiments of photography. Students will apply this knowledge in weekly photographic assignments and homework. A 35mm camera in good working order is required and a high level of responsibility and behavior is required from all students.

