

Painting

Grade levels: (9, 10, 11, 12)

1 semester

Pre-requisites: Drawing (Drawing or Design Arts -South High only)

Description

Painting 1 is an introductory studio course that develops students' foundational understanding of painting materials, processes, techniques, and visual communication. Students explore painting through studio practices, color theory, acrylic painting, watercolor techniques, and optional oil painting foundations. Through hands-on practice, experimentation, observation, and reflection, students learn to make intentional choices with color, value, texture, brushwork, composition, and craftsmanship. This course helps students build confidence with paint while developing the technical and creative skills needed to communicate ideas, emotions, and meaning through visual art.

Why This Course

Painting gives students a powerful way to explore visual expression, creative problem-solving, and personal communication. In Painting 1, students learn how different painting materials behave and how artists use color, value, surface, transparency, layering, and technique to create meaning and visual impact. The course emphasizes safe and responsible studio habits, control of materials, craftsmanship, and artistic decision-making. By building foundational skills in multiple painting processes, students gain the confidence and independence needed for future work in painting, design, illustration, mixed media, and other visual arts pathways.

Units of Learning

Introduction To Painting & Studio Practices

Understanding painting materials, techniques, and studio procedures helps students work safely, confidently, and independently while building the foundational skills needed for artistic success.

Color Theory

Understanding color theory helps students make intentional artistic decisions about mood, emphasis, harmony, and visual communication. By learning how colors interact and influence one another, students develop the skills needed to create more effective, expressive, and visually engaging paintings.

Watercolor Techniques And Transparency

Watercolor painting challenges artists to balance planning, control, and experimentation while working with a medium known for its transparency and fluidity. Through this unit, students learn how water, pigment, and layering interact to create depth, atmosphere, texture, and mood. By exploring techniques such as washes, glazing, and wet-on-wet applications, students develop an understanding of color relationships, value, and composition while strengthening their ability to make intentional artistic decisions. These skills encourage adaptability, creative problem-solving, and confidence in using watercolor as a unique form of visual expression.

Acrylic Painting Foundational Techniques

Acrylic paint is a versatile medium that allows artists to explore a wide range of techniques, from transparent layering to textured applications, while developing an understanding of how the Elements of Art and Principles of Design work together to create effective compositions. Through this unit, students learn to make intentional choices about color, value, texture, and composition to communicate ideas,

emotions, and meaning. These skills strengthen creative problem-solving, artistic confidence, and visual communication, while providing a foundation for future studies in painting, design, illustration, and other visual arts disciplines.

Oil Painting Foundations (Optional)

Oil painting provides students with an opportunity to explore one of the most influential and enduring mediums in art history while developing advanced skills in color mixing, blending, layering, and surface development. Through this unit, students learn how the slow-drying nature of oil paint allows artists to refine details, create smooth transitions, and build depth, realism, and visual richness. By practicing traditional and contemporary oil painting techniques, students strengthen their understanding of color, value, texture, and composition while developing patience, craftsmanship, and confidence in their artistic decision-making. These skills provide a strong foundation for future painting experiences and a deeper appreciation for the artistic process.

District Provided Resource(s)

This course has no district-provided resources.

Required Assessment(s)

This course has no required assessments.

Course Number(s)

27500