



ART

VISUAL ART / DIGITAL ART OR DIGITAL ART / VISUAL ART

If you plan on taking more than one Art class in high school, we recommend that you take both **Digital Art** and **Visual Art** to be ready for anything and everything we have to offer at West High. Digital Art introduces and expands upon foundational skills needed to work in Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator as well as photography. In Visual Art, you will build upon your art education in the traditional areas of ceramics, drawing, and painting.

Sophomore-Senior Art Courses

Ceramics and Sculpture 1 & 2, Drawing 1 & 2, Painting 1 & 2, Computer Art 1 & 2, Graphic Design 1 & 2, Photography 1 & 2 Animation, Art in the Community, Adv. Ceramics and Sculpture, Adv. Digital Arts, Adv. Drawing and Painting AP Art History (H), AP Studio Art: 2D (H), AP Studio Art: 3D (H), AP Studio Art: Drawing/Painting (H)

MUSIC

DIGITAL MUSIC PRODUCTION 1 & 2

Use professional recording and editing software to learn the basics of beatmaking, production, and songwriting. Record yourself and/or your classmates in our sound booth to use in your projects. No matter the type of music you enjoy listening to, these classes will help you understand how your favorite styles of music are created and how you can create them yourself.

BAND: FRESHMAN BAND

Continue playing your instrument at West High! By joining West Aurora Bands, you'll play four concerts a year and have the opportunity to join the Marching Band, Pep Band, and/or one of our five jazz bands!

CHOIR: BEL CANTO CHOIR OR VARSITY SINGERS

Join the choir family at West High! With almost 300 students in West High Choirs, there's something for everybody. Continue singing at West to sharpen your skills or join the choirs to learn how to read music and sing better. Treble voices register for **Bel Canto Choir**; Tenor and bass voices register for **Varsity Singers**.

Sophomore-Senior Music Courses

*Non-Performance: Digital Music Production Studio, Music in America (Dual Credit), AP Music Theory (H)
Bands: Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony (H)
Choirs: A Cappella Choir (H), Bel Canto, Dorian Choir, Lyric Chorus, Mixed Ensemble, Varsity Singers*

THEATRE

THEATRE ARTS: INTRO TO ACTING OR THEATRE TECH AND DESIGN

Whether you like being in the spotlight or running the light board, our Theatre classes are for you! **Theatre Arts: Intro to Acting** is recommended for those that wish to improve their public speaking, develop acting techniques, and explore character development (including stage makeup and costumes). If you are interested in Stage Crew, set design, lighting, or audio engineering, then you should register for **Theatre Tech and Design**.

Sophomore-Senior Theatre Courses

Theatre Tech and Design, Theatre Performance, Studio Theatre, Diversity in American Theatre (Dual Credit)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE ELECTIVES?

Electives are classes that are not required. At West High, freshmen electives include Fine Arts, C.T.E, World Languages, and Social Studies.

HOW MANY ELECTIVES CAN I TAKE?

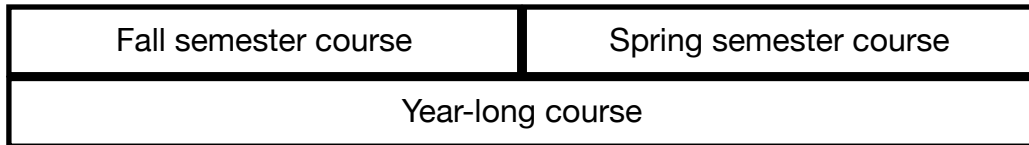
That depends on how many classes you are required to take. Typically, freshmen will have one to three electives. Please note that an IA (Instructional Assistance) takes the place of an elective, however no credit is earned for an IA.

CAN I TAKE MORE THAN ONE FINE ARTS COURSE?

Yes! As long as you have enough elective periods in your schedule, you can take multiple fine arts courses. Many of our freshmen are in band and choir, or band and art, or choir and theatre, or any of the other possible combinations.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SEMESTER-LONG AND YEAR-LONG COURSES?

A year is two semesters long. So, two semester-long courses equal one year-long course.



WHAT ABOUT EXTRACURRICULARS?

We have four auditioned **JAZZ BANDS** (auditions are on the Wednesday before spring break). If you play piano, bass, or guitar, you don't have to be in Freshman Band to play in one of our jazz bands. For more information, email Ms. Sampson (psampson@sd129.org). We also have one non-auditioned jazz band that starts in November. Registration for the **BLACKHAWK MARCHING BAND** will open right after spring break and registration for **PEP BAND** begins in October.

While **ACABELLES** and **MADRIGAL SINGERS** are not open to freshmen, **STUDYhall** is open to all bass voice in our choral program. Email Mr. Smith (briansmith@sd129.org) if you would like to be in STUDYhall.

West High drama productions are open to all students and auditions occur throughout the year. We have four main productions each year - **FALL PLAY**, **NEWCOMERS PLAY**, **WINTER ONE ACTS**, and the **SPRING MUSICAL**. Additionally, **STAGE CREW** members are needed for all of these productions as well as many other events throughout the year. Watch for sign-up information in August.

There are many opportunities to meet up with other students who like making art. As a freshman, you can join **CLAY CLUB** or **PHOTO CLUB**. If eligible, you may apply to join the **NATIONAL ART HONORS SOCIETY** as a sophomore.

CAN I EARN COLLEGE CREDIT IN THE FINE ARTS?

Yes...but not until you successfully finish freshman year. **Music in America** and **Diversity in American Theatre** are offered for dual credit through Waubensee Community College. Get an arts education and earn SIX humanities credit hours that transfer to any Illinois state college or university...all at no cost to you or your family!



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