

# FINE ARTS

The Fine Arts Department consists of two branches—performing arts and visual arts. The curriculum is designed to provide students with a wide variety of experiences in the arts. The performing arts branch of the department encompasses the disciplines of music, theatre, and dance. Courses in these areas provide a range of experiences to meet the needs of all students at Los Alamitos High School. The visual arts branch of the department allows students to create and develop projects in the areas of ceramics, drawing/painting, 3-D design, photography, printmaking, and art in the media.

Along with performances and/or projects, the Fine Arts Department stresses the importance of the historical aspects of the arts as well as its cultural impact on the world.

## PERFORMING ARTS

### POSSIBLE CAREER OBJECTIVES FOR STUDENTS WITH PERFORMING ARTS TRAINING

Actor	Music Critic
Arranger	Music Historian
Broadcaster	Music Publisher
Choral Director	Music/Dance Therapist
Choreographer	Musician
Composer	Singer
Concert Promoter	Stage Designer
Conductor	Stage/Technical Director
Costume Designer	Teacher, Dance
Dancer	Teacher, Drama
Director	Teacher, Music
Drama Critic	Technical Advisor for Radio, TV, Film, or Theatre
Music Composer	

## COURSE OFFERINGS AT A GLANCE

COURSE TITLE	GRADE LEVEL	FALL	SPRING	YEAR	CREDITS	PREREQUISITES
*Beginning Dance	9-12			X	5-10	Teacher approval (audition)
*Intermediate Dance	9-12			X	5-10	Teacher approval (audition)
*Advanced Dance	9-12			X	5-10	Teacher approval (audition)
Beginning Drama 1,2	9-12	X	X		5-10	None
Intermediate Drama	10-12			X	10	Theatre Appreciation or teacher approval (audition)
Advanced Drama	10-12			X	10	Teacher approval (audition)
*Beginning / Intermediate Band	9-12			X	10	Permission of teacher, and/or audition
*Advanced Band	10-12			X	10	Ability to play a standard band instrument, audition, and/or permission of teacher
Jazz Band – Intermediate Level	9-12			X	10	Permission of teacher, and/or audition
Jazz Band – Advanced Level	9-12			X	10	Permission of teacher, and/or audition
Percussion Ensemble	9-12			X	10	Previous percussion experience; audition; permission of instructor
Orchestra	9-12			X	10	Previous instrumental experience and audition and permission of instructor
Concert Choir	10-12			X	10	Audition only
Men’s Chorus	9-12			X	10	None
Beginning Women’s Ensemble	9-12			X	10	None
Advanced Women’s Ensemble (Soundtrax)	9-12	X	X	X	5-10	Audition only
Advanced Mixed Show Choir	10-12			X	10	Audition only
Music Theory Advanced Placement	10-12	X	X	X	10	Some previous musical experience; ability to read musical notation. Teacher permission required.

\* Students may elect to take this course for fine arts or physical education credit. See counselor for P.E. credit limitations.

NOTE: Dance classes require extra costs for dance shoes and clothes as needed and for performance costumes.

Marching Band, Dance Team, Colorguard, Choir and Jazz Band require extra costs for co-curricular activities. Fundraisers are available to offset these expenses. Students trying out will get a detailed cost sheet.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**BEGINNING DANCE** 5-10 Credits    Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Teacher approval through audition

HS (d), (g), or (h)

This course teaches dance vocabulary, ballet/jazz dance techniques, performance techniques, and choreography techniques at the beginning level. Students are required to participate in one performance per semester. Enrollment will count towards the student's P.E. graduation requirement. Course may be repeated for credit. Students must register for the class and will receive notification in May regarding a June audition.

**INTERMEDIATE DANCE** 5-10 Credits    Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Teacher approval through audition

HS (d), (g), or (h); CSU / UC (f)

This course teaches dance vocabulary, ballet/jazz dance techniques, performance techniques, and choreography techniques at varying intermediate levels. Students should have previous dance experience and are encouraged to continue dance training outside of school. Students are required to participate in one performance per semester enrolled. In addition to outside performances, students are required to take a dance vocabulary final and complete written critiques that require attendance at a professional dance performance outside of the school day. Enrollment will count towards the student's P.E. OR Fine Arts graduation requirement. Course may be repeated for credit. Students must register for the class and will receive notification in May regarding a June audition.

**ADVANCED DANCE** 5-10 Credits    Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Teacher approval through audition

HS (d), (g), or (h); CSU / UC (f)

This course teaches dance vocabulary, ballet/jazz dance techniques, performance techniques, and choreography techniques at the advanced level. Students must have outside dance experience and must continue training at a dance studio outside of school. Students are required to participate in one performance per semester enrolled. In addition to outside performances, students are required to take a dance vocabulary final and complete written critiques that require attendance at a professional dance performance outside of the school day. Enrollment will count towards the student's P.E. OR Fine Arts graduation requirement. Course may be repeated for credit. Students must register for the class and will receive notification in May regarding a June audition.

**BEGINNING DRAMA 1, 2** 5-10 Credits    Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None

HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (f)

Beginning Drama is an introductory performance-based class designed to acquaint the student with various aspects of theatre and performance including acting, technical theatre, history,

terminology, and improvisation. Students will do in-class performances of scenes and monologues and participate in theatre games and exercises in class.

**INTERMEDIATE DRAMA** 10 Credits Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Theatre Appreciation or teacher approval (audition)  
HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (pending approval for 2006-07 school year)

Intermediate Drama is a performance-based class. Students will study vocal technique, performance skills, acting theories, and various playwrights. Performances will include a play each semester, in-class scene work, and participation at a local theatre festival. Students may enroll after two successful semesters of Beginning Drama or by audition. Auditions are held in May and require two memorized monologues and a cold reading. Previous performance experience is recommended. See teacher in April for audition information.

**ADVANCED DRAMA** 10 Credits Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Teacher approval (audition)  
HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (f)

Advanced Drama is a performance-based class for advanced actors who will produce the mainstage school productions. Performances include three plays and participation at a local theatre festival. Auditions are held in May and require two memorized monologues and a cold reading. Previous performance experience is highly recommended. See teacher in April for audition information.

**BEGINNING / INTERMEDIATE BAND** 10 Credits Grades 9-10

Prerequisite: Permission of teacher and/or audition; and/or recommendation of middle school teacher  
HS (d), (g), or (h); CSU / UC (f)

Open to all ninth and tenth grade students who play a traditional band instrument or to any student wishing to learn a band instrument. During the fall, this band will combine with the Advanced Band to form the marching band. After the marching band season is over, this band will stress basic concepts of tone production and instrumental techniques. Attendance and participation at all performances is required.

**ADVANCED BAND** 10 Credits Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Ability to play a band instrument, audition, and/or permission of teacher  
HS (d), (g), or (h); CSU / UC (f)

During the fall, this band will combine with the Beginning/Intermediate Band to form the marching band which performs at pep rallies, football games, parades, and field tournaments. During the spring semester (and after the marching season is over) this band becomes the Symphonic Band and performs at festivals and concerts. The Advanced Band stresses advanced techniques of instrumental performance, both as a group and as individuals. Emphasis is placed on proper tone, technique, rhythm, and all other aspects of proper instrument performance. Attendance and participation at all performances is required.

**JAZZ BAND - INTERMEDIATE LEVEL** 10 Credits Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Audition and/or permission of teacher.  
HS (d), (g), or (h); CSU / UC (f)

Open to all students by audition and permission of teacher. This class includes the study and performance of contemporary, jazz, and rock music for the "Big Band" idiom, with emphasis on beginning improvisation and musical style. This band will be a performing group playing concerts and jazz festivals. Attendance and participation at all performances is required.

**JAZZ BAND - ADVANCED LEVEL**

10 Credits Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Audition and/or permission of teacher  
HS (d), (g), or (h); CSU / UC (f)

Open to all students by audition and permission of teacher. This class includes the study and performance of contemporary, jazz, and rock music for the "Big Band" idiom, with emphasis on advanced improvisation and musical style. This band will be a performing group playing concerts and jazz festivals. Attendance and participation at all performances is required.

**PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**

10 Credits Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Previous percussion experience and audition and permission of instructor  
HS (g) or (h)

This is a one-year course providing instruction on marching and concert percussion literature and performance. The course will develop the necessary skills to perform on the student's instrument both as an individual and as part of an ensemble. This course offers continued development of those skills learned in the middle school percussion section. Performances may include concert festivals, field shows, parades, half-time football games and winter drumline competitions.

**ORCHESTRA**

10 Credits Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Previous instrumental experience; audition and permission of instructor  
HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (f)

This is a one-year course providing instruction on string and full orchestra performance literature. The course will develop the necessary skills to perform on the student's instrument both as an individual and as part of an ensemble. This course offers continued development of those skills learned in the middle school level string orchestra program. Performances may include concerts and festivals on and off campus. Participation and attendance is required at all performances.

**CONCERT CHOIR (Xpressions)**

10 Credits Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Audition only  
HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (f)

This is a one-year choral music course for students interested in experiencing a wide range of musical styles and literature suited for a large ensemble at the intermediate to advanced level. Although previous choral experience is not required, some high school musical experience is recommended. Requirements include consistent class attendance and promptness, attendance at all scheduled rehearsals and performances, acquisition of the appropriate performance apparel, part testing and written assignments and quizzes. This class is only offered "0" period (6:50-7:42 a.m.). Students interested in this class should register for the class and look for information regarding a June audition for enrollment the following Fall. Course may be repeated for credit.

**MEN'S CHORUS (Xtreme)**

10 Credits Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None  
HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (f)

Open to all Los Alamitos High School male students, this choir will focus on choral literature and vocal techniques specifically for the men's voice. Men with no previous vocal experience are required to enroll in this ensemble before auditioning for more advanced choral groups. A wide range of genres including classical, Broadway, pop, and jazz is used to develop basic musicianship, vocal production, and performance skills. Culmination of class work will be public performances on campus and participation in choral festivals and show choir competitions. Requirements include consistent class attendance and promptness, attendance at all scheduled rehearsals and performances, acquisition of the appropriate performance apparel, part testing and written assignments and quizzes. Course may be repeated for credit. Students in grades

10-12 who have successfully completed one year of Men's Chorus may earn P.E. OR Fine Arts graduation credit the spring semester only.

**BEGINNING WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE (Axcent)** 10 Credits Grades 9-12  
Prerequisite: None  
HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (f)

Open to all Los Alamitos High School female students, this choir will focus on choral literature and vocal techniques specifically for women's voices. Women with no previous vocal experience are required to enroll in this ensemble before auditioning for more advanced choral groups. A wide range of genres including classical, Broadway, pop, and jazz is used to develop basic musicianship, vocal production, and performance skills. Culmination of class work will be public performances on campus and participation in choral festivals and show choir competitions. Requirements include consistent class attendance and promptness, attendance at all scheduled rehearsals and performances, acquisition of the appropriate performance apparel, part testing and written assignments and quizzes. Course may be repeated for credit.

**ADVANCED WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE (Soundtrax)** 5-10 Credits Grades 9-12  
Prerequisite: Audition only  
HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (f)

This is a one-year performing ensemble at the advanced level offered to qualified women with some vocal music background. Classical and Show Choir festivals will be attended at the competitive level. Time demands on this ensemble are great and require a serious musical commitment. Many required activities are scheduled outside of the regular school day including performances and rehearsals. Requirements include consistent class attendance and promptness, attendance at all scheduled rehearsals and performances, acquisition of the appropriate performance apparel, part testing and written assignments and quizzes. Students interested in this class should register for the class and look for information regarding a June audition for enrollment the following Fall. Students may earn P.E. OR Fine Arts graduation credit the spring semester only. Course may be repeated for credit.

**ADVANCED MIXED SHOW CHOIR (Sound FX)** 10 Credits Grades 10-12  
Prerequisite: Audition only  
HS (d), (g), or (h); CSU / UC (f)

This is a one-year advanced course offered to students interested in participating in an entertainment ensemble at the highest professional level. Participation in competitions, festivals, on-campus concerts, community events, and rehearsals is mandatory and will require a great deal of time outside regular class meetings, sometimes requiring the students' attendance out of the regular class schedule. Requirements include consistent class attendance and promptness, attendance at all scheduled rehearsals and performances, acquisition of the appropriate performance apparel, part testing and written assignments and quizzes. Students interested in this class should register for the class and look for information regarding a June audition for enrollment in the following Fall. Enrollment will count towards the student's P.E. OR Fine Arts graduation requirement. Course may be repeated for credit.

**MUSIC THEORY ADVANCED PLACEMENT** 10 Credits Grades 10-12  
Prerequisite: Some previous musical experience; ability to read musical notation; knowledge of major and minor key signatures helpful. Teacher permission required.  
HS (g) or (h); CSU / UC (f)

This one-year non-performance ensemble will focus on the theoretical aspect of music. Note reading, harmony, form, analysis, and sight singing will all be developed with the ultimate goal of composing, conducting, or performing in mind. Preparation for the advanced placement test in music theory will guide the curriculum. Students enrolling in this course are expected to sit for the AP exam in May.

# VISUAL ARTS

## POSSIBLE CAREER OBJECTIVES FOR STUDENTS WITH VISUAL ARTS TRAINING

Advertising Layout Artist	Interior Designer
Art Director	Jeweler
Audio-visual Production Specialist	Manager, Display
Cartoonist	Media Illustrator
Ceramicist	Painter
Clothes Designer	Photo Journalist
Commercial Designer	Photographer, Motion Picture
Creative Director	Photographer, Still
Computer Graphics	Potter
Displayer, Merchandise	Sculptor
Fashion Artist	Set Decorator
Floral Designer	Set Designer
Graphic Designer	Sign Painter
Illustrator, Medical and Scientific	Teacher, Art
Industrial Designer	Textile Designer

## COURSE OFFERINGS AT A GLANCE

COURSE TITLE	GRADE LEVEL	FALL	SPRING	YEAR	CREDITS	PREREQUISITES
Ceramics 1, 2 (Pottery)	9-12	X	X		5-10	None
Ceramics Advanced (Pottery)	10-12	X	X		5-30	Ceramics 2 & teacher approval or grade of C or better
Contemporary Media in Art 1, 2	9-12	X	X		5-10	None
Contemporary Media in Art Advanced	10-12	X	X		5-30	Contemporary Media in Art 2 with grade of C or better
Contemporary Video	10-12	X	X		5-10	Teacher approval
Printmaking 1, 2	9-12	X	X		5-10	None
Printmaking Advanced	10-12	X	X		5-30	Printmaking 2 with grade of C or better
Drawing/Painting 1, 2	9-12	X	X		5-10	None
Drawing/Painting Advanced	10-12	X	X		5-30	Drawing/Painting 2 with grade of C or better
3-Dimensional Design 1, 2 (Jewelry/Crafts)	9-12	X	X		5-10	None

3-Dimensional Design Advanced (Jewelry/Crafts)	10-12	X	X		5-30	3-Dimensional Design 2 with grade of C or better
Photography 1, 2	9-12	X	X		5-10	None
Photography Advanced	10-12	X	X		5-30	Photography 2 with grade of C or better
Art History Advanced Placement	11-12			X	10	3.0 GPA; teacher approval upon submission of writing sample
Studio Art Advanced Placement	11-12			X	10	See course description

NOTE: All Art department classes require a \$25.00 shop fee for materials students will use and keep. No student will be prevented from classroom participation due to inability to afford these materials. Mid-year entry is allowed in all courses. A grade of C or better on all prerequisites is required unless otherwise stated.

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CERAMICS 1, 2 (POTTERY) 5-10 Credits    Grades 9-12  
 Prerequisite: None  
 HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

The first year class explores basic ceramic processes including a variety of hand building techniques, wheel work, and glazing procedures. Emphasis is on well-crafted, functional pottery.

CERAMICS ADVANCED (POTTERY) 5-30 Credits    Grades 10-12  
 Prerequisite: Ceramics 2 and teacher approval or grade of C or better  
 HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

This course is a continuation of Ceramics 2 with emphasis on more advanced projects. Students work with alternative clay colorations and joining techniques plus production work. Creativity and quality craftsmanship are emphasized. Third year students will require a portfolio review.

CONTEMPORARY MEDIA IN ART 1, 2 5-10 Credits    Grades 9-12  
 Prerequisite: None  
 HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

This course is for students interested in exploring the creation of art with contemporary media. Students will work with Macintosh computers, scanners, digital still cameras, video, and computer graphic design programs. Emphasis will be on introductory design skills.

CONTEMPORARY MEDIA IN ART ADVANCED 5-30 Credits    Grades 10-12  
 Prerequisite: Contemporary Media in Art 2 with grade of C or better  
 HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g)

This course is a continuation of Contemporary Media in Art 2 with an emphasis on more advanced projects. New graphic programs will be added to the students' curriculum in addition to advanced design techniques.

CONTEMPORARY VIDEO 5-10 Credits Grades 10-12  
Prerequisite: Teacher approval  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

This course is for students interested in exploring the art of video production. Working with Apple computers, digital video cameras and the Apple Final Cut Studio suite of programs, students will create unique personal films as well as the school video yearbook DVD. Students will learn Final Cut Pro, Motion and DVD Studio Pro. Returning students will be challenged with more advanced projects and techniques.

PRINTMAKING 1, 2 5-10 Credits Grades 9-12  
Prerequisite: None  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

This course is for students interested in learning the fundamental techniques of printmaking using a variety of relief printmaking and screen printing processes. Focus is on the personal, cultural, and societal contexts of art.

PRINTMAKING ADVANCED 5-30 Credits Grades 10-12  
Prerequisite: Printmaking 2 with grade of C or better  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g)

This course is a continuation of Printmaking 2 with emphasis on more advanced projects that will further develop the student's creativity and craftsmanship. Portfolio development will be emphasized in the third year.

DRAWING / PAINTING 1, 2 5-10 Credits Grades 9-12  
Prerequisite: None  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

This course is designed to introduce the beginning student to the fundamental techniques of drawing and painting and the utilization of different drawing and painting materials. Emphasis will be on developing skill in drawing and painting techniques, as well as other facets of artistic expression.

DRAWING / PAINTING ADVANCED 5-30 Credits Grades 10-12  
Prerequisite: Drawing/Painting 2 and grade of C or better  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

This course is designed to enrich the knowledge of students interested in drawing and painting. Various media will be introduced to expand the student's working vocabulary. Further study of artistic expression will be incorporated into more complex and challenging projects. Portfolio materials are stressed in the third year course.

3-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN 1, 2 (JEWELRY / CRAFTS) 5-10 Credits Grades 9-12  
Prerequisite: None  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

This course is for students who want to explore beginning three-dimensional design. Project emphasis will be on wearable jewelry and small sculpture. Students will create functional as well as visually-pleasing objects.

3-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN ADVANCED (JEWELRY / CRAFTS) 5-30 Credits Grades 10-12  
Prerequisite: 3-Dimensional Design 2 with grade of C or better  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g)

This course is a continuation of 3-Dimensional Design 2 with an emphasis on more advanced projects. Multimedia and advanced fabrication will be offered as well as basic processes. Portfolio review is required in the third year.

PHOTOGRAPHY 1, 2 5-10 Credits Grades 9-12  
Prerequisite: None  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

An introductory course designed to provide basic instruction in camera techniques, film processing, enlarging, darkroom processes, and print presentation. Students will also explore photography as an art form in a historical context.

PHOTOGRAPHY ADVANCED 5-30 Credits Grades 10-12  
Prerequisite: Photography 2 with a grade of C or better  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

This course is an advanced exploration in photography, including portraiture, lighting and advertising. Students will improve their portfolios while examining personal expression and experimental techniques.

ART HISTORY ADVANCED PLACEMENT 10 Credits Grades 11-12  
Prerequisite: 3.0 GPA; teacher approval upon submission of writing sample  
HS (g) or (h); CSU (f) or (g); UC (f)

Advanced Placement Art History is a college-level survey course that provides an intensive study of the history of Western art. Lectures focus on contextual introductions to Painting, Sculpture and Architecture from various art periods throughout history and across cultures. Strategies of contextual and comparative analysis prepare students to take the advanced placement test in Art History. Students enrolling in this course are expected to sit for the AP exam in May.

STUDIO ART ADVANCED PLACEMENT 10 Credits Grades 11-12  
Prerequisite: Drawing & Painting (minimum of one semester);  
Portfolio review  
H.S. (g) (h); CSU (f) (g); UC (f)

AP Studio Art is a one-year college-level course designed to provide the student with visual art experiences that will lead to the completion of a portfolio of work. This portfolio is the vehicle through which the student can demonstrate the ability to deal with the fundamental concerns of the visual arts. This course is geared toward generating high quality work, exploring an area of interest, and developing a breadth of experience in the formal, technical, and expressive means of an artist. This class will assist students in completing a final portfolio to be submitted for Advanced Placement evaluation.