

ACPA Course Offerings Catalog

Department	Course Name	Grade Level(s)	Duration	Prerequisite(s)	Course Description
Arts	Arts Foundations	9	Year	None	This required freshman course provides incoming ninth graders with an overview of the arts offerings at ACPA. Students participate in project-based units in Dance, Music (instrumental and vocal), Theatre, and Visual Art. These units allow each student to experience each discipline, develop a foundation of skills and knowledge in each, and discover their own interests and talents.
Dance	Beginner Tap	9-12	Semester	None	This is an introductory tap class. Participants are required to purchase tap shoes. No experience is necessary to participate in this class. Tap shoes are required.
Dance	Dance 1	10-12	Year	None	This is both a studio and academic dance course designed to develop technical proficiency in dance as well as build dance appreciation, knowledge aspects in dance history, and dance vocabulary/terminology. It focuses on student mastery of beginning elements of concert dance styles such as ballet, jazz, and modern contemporary. There are no prerequisites for this course.
Dance	Dance 2	11-12	Year	Dance 1	This is a studio and academic dance class designed to develop technical proficiency and literacy in the art of dance. It builds upon foundations established in Dance 1 and focuses on student mastery of intermediate technical skills in concert dance styles such as ballet, jazz, and modern/contemporary. The emphasis is on student cognitive awareness and performance of ballet, jazz, and modern/contemporary dance as well as dancer wellness, components of performance, somatic study, and some choreography and improvisational experiences. Prerequisites for this course are successful completion of Dance 1.
Dance	Dance 3	12	Year	Dance 2	Choreography and improvisation are advanced concepts in dance and are intended for the serious dance student. This course covers the in depth exploration of the principles and elements of choreography. Students will have opportunities to choreograph and perform group and solo pieces. Prerequisites for this course are completion of Dance 2 or permission of instructor.

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Dance	Yoga <i>(Physical Education credit option)</i>	9-12	Semester	None	This is an introductory yoga course no previous experience is necessary. This class will challenge the body and mind through strengthening, stretching, relaxing, and breathing. Flexibility, balance, and muscle tone will continually improve as we progress through beginner yoga poses and sequences.
Dance	ZUMBA <i>(Physical Education credit option)</i>	9-12	Semester	None	ZUMBA is a Latin-inspired, world dance, fitness class that uses Latin and international music and dance moves to create an exciting and effective fitness program. If you like to PARTY, stay FIT, and DANCE, ZUMBA is the semester PE course for you! Please bring a water bottle and be prepared to sweat!
English	AP Literature	11-12	Year	Instructor Permission	The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure.
English	Creative Writing	11-12	Semester	English 9, 10	This course will focus on expressive writing in many different forms. Students will have the opportunity to explore writing several different types of poetry and prose, as well as responding to literature, art mediums, quotes, and music. Originality and writing that shows thought will be emphasized. Strategies to avoid writer's block and new ways to uncover ideas for writing will be studied. Peer reviews and sharing ideas are essential elements to this course. Students may also work towards publishing a creative writing magazine.
English	English 9	9	Year	None	In English 9 students will build foundational skills for analyzing literary fiction and non-fiction. Students will read and write about texts from a variety of genres including memoir, short stories, poetry, drama, and informational texts. Our year will be organized into thematic units that explore suspense, fear, power, courage, and heroism.

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English	English 10	10	Year	English 9	In English 10, students will focus on analytical reading and writing skills across a variety of genres of writing. Students will work with poetry, fiction, non-fiction and political writing, all with a focus not only what language means, but also on what effect it has on the reader and their world.
English	English 11	11	Year	English 9, 10	English 11: American Literature is a literature-based course devoted to the reading and critical analysis of American literature, consisting of the poetry, drama, fiction, and non-fiction of the United States from Pre-Colonial through more contemporary eras. Students analyze thematic units of literature to decipher how certain values run consistently through a variety of texts. Our rigorous investigation takes the form of class discussion and composition primarily through advanced essay writing, creative writing, and projects. The central project of the course is the writing of a 5 - 7 page research paper, which also offers more advanced literary analysis instruction. Additionally, students will receive rigorous testing practice to prepare them for success on the English and Reading sections of the ACT.
English	Horror Literature	11-12	Semester	English 9, 10	This course (formerly Horror Literature) is a tour de force through a variety of horror subgenres, emphasizing the study of spooky things in mythology, folklore, poetry, short fiction, and film. Although this course dabbles in the fun of scaring ourselves, we will analyze how authors utilize elements of suspense, terror, and horror to convey important ideas about humanity and what we fear.
English	LGBT Literature	11-12	Semester	English 9, 10	Students will improve their knowledge of the history and representation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people through analyzing both fiction and non-fiction. We will explore how power, privilege, and inequity have influenced and continue to affect individual experiences related to sexuality and gender.

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English	<i>Sci-Fi Literature</i>	12	Semester	English 9, 10	Students will analyze speculative fiction through a variety of short stories, films, and informational texts. Our semester will be organized into thematic units that explore alien encounters, space exploration, time travel, and technological evolution.
Foreign Language	<i>Spanish 1</i>	9-11	Year	None	Spanish 1 will provide students with a general introduction to the Spanish language: pronunciation, functional vocabulary related to everyday life, cultural information, and basic grammatical structures. Emphasis will be on the acquisition of four skills at a novice level: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. There are two main objectives to the course. The first is to give students the ability to carry out simple conversation with memorized phrases. The second is to provide students with a basic understanding of vocabulary, grammar, and Hispanic-Latino culture.
Foreign Language	<i>Spanish 2</i>	9-12	Year	Spanish 1	Spanish 2 builds upon knowledge gained in Spanish 1. This course will also reinforce the skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) learned in Spanish I at the novice level, but eventually transitioning to the intermediate level. Emphasis is on perfecting pronunciation, mastery of the basic grammatical structures, and increased communicative proficiency. Students will be expected to be able to speak and write with more self-constructed sentences (less memorized language) and listen and read with more fluency. In the interest of furthering students' spoken fluency, they will be asked to participate in an immersion environment and sign a "No English" Contract.
Foreign Language	<i>Spanish 3</i>	9-12	Year	Spanish 1 & 2 (minimum of a C in Spanish 2)	Spanish III is offered to highly motivated students who want to be challenged with a fast paced curriculum. Grammar and vocabulary will be covered in more depth. Students will continue to develop their understanding of Spanish speaking cultures by integrating information on literature, art, history, music and current events into the curriculum. Students will also be working on Spanish skills and activities including reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will be exposed to authentic material and various media sources in the target language. Spanish will be used at all times during class.

ACPA Course Offerings Catalog

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Foreign Language	Spanish 4	10-12	Year	Spanish 1, 2 & 3 (minimum of a C in Spanish 3)	This course focuses on linguistic accuracy through discussion, debate and general Spanish conversation on current and historical events and topics. Students will read and analyze authentic Spanish literature and film and discuss contemporary issues in the target language. The course incorporates an extensive writing component, with a comprehensive application of the first three years of grammar. Spanish 4 is designed to prepare academically motivated students to continue their study of Spanish at the college level and beyond.
Instrumental Music	Band Lab 1	10-12	Year	Intro to Guitar, Percussion Ensemble, 1 full year of vocal music, or demonstrate equivalent experience by audition	This course is for experienced musicians who want to compose and perform original music. Students form bands in which they practice the skills essential to a productive and successful band, including rehearsal techniques, songwriting, performing, and recording. The majority of class time is spent in student-directed rehearsals. Bands will perform regularly, both in and out of school. Students must have successfully completed an instrumental or vocal class (Percussion, Guitar, Keyboard, or any vocal class) at ACPA or demonstrate equivalent experience. Students are strongly encouraged to provide their own instruments.
Instrumental Music	Band Lab 2	11-12	Year	Successful completion of Band Lab 1 or equivalent experience; Juniors must have instructor permission.	This course is open to seniors and exceptional juniors with extensive musical experience and dedication. Students will form bands in which they will write, perform, and record original music, as well as learn to navigate the local music scene and explore post-high school musical involvement. Bands will perform multiple times throughout the year, both in and out of school. Students in Band Lab 2 must have a strong ability to work in groups, and have successfully completed Band Lab 1 (or have equivalent experience).
Instrumental Music	Freshman Guitar	9-10	Semester	None	This course is for beginning students who want to develop basic skills on the guitar. Students will learn basic technique, music reading, and improvisation by playing songs from a variety of genres. No previous experience is necessary. Students are encouraged to supply their own acoustic guitar and accessories, but school instruments are available to borrow.

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Instrumental Music	<i>Intro to Guitar</i>	10-12	Year	None	This course is for students who want to learn to play guitar. Students will learn guitar technique, music theory, tablature, notation, and improvisation through the study of important artists and styles in the history of American music. No previous experience is needed. Students are strongly encouraged to supply their own acoustic guitar and accessories, but school instruments are available to borrow.
Instrumental Music	<i>Intro to Percussion</i>	9-10	Semester	None	This course is for beginning students who want to develop basic skills on a variety of percussion instruments. Students will learn basic technique, music reading, and improvisation through the study of bucket drumming, keyboard percussion, hand drums, and drum set. No previous experience is necessary.
Instrumental Music	<i>Percussion</i>	10-12	Year	Intro to Percussion or 1 year of other percussion experience	This course is for students who want a more intensive percussion course, or who have previous percussion experience. Students will continue to develop technique and musicianship on a variety of percussion instruments through the study of various genres and styles of percussion music, music theory, performance, and creative projects.
Math	<i>Algebra I</i>	9	Year	None	A course designed to give students the requisite skills and solid foundation for all future math courses. The course includes inequalities in one and two variables, linear equations, powers, exponents, polynomials, exponents and beginning graphing.
Math	<i>Algebra II</i>	10-11	Year	Algebra 1, Geometry	Students will continue the exploration of Algebra. Topics covered include families of functions; logarithms and exponential functions; quadratic functions; and other topics that build on algebra 1 skills. Students should be prepared to engage in self-directed and self-evaluated learning processes! Students should expect to enjoy this course!
Math	<i>AP Calculus</i>	11-12	Year	Pre-Calculus, Instructor Approval	Understanding the “why” as well as the “how” enables students to connect the skills and philosophies to both the AP Calculus exam as well as daily life and future mathematics study. Students who take this course should do so with the intent to place out of similar college courses. Students taking this course should be prepared to work very hard and achieve at high levels. TI 83 or TI 84 graphing calculators highly recommended.

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Math	Geometry	9-10	Year	Algebra 1	This course focuses on the properties, relationships, and measurement of points, lines, curves, and surfaces. Students will be focusing on logical proofs and will use critical thinking skills to solve problems. Topics include parallel lines, properties of polygons, perimeter and area analysis, similarity and congruence, volume and surface area analysis, and trigonometry.
Math	Pre-Calculus	10-12	Year	Algebra 2	An advanced mathematics course designed to prepare students for Calculus. Topics covered include: angles, the unit circle, radians, trigonometry, trigonometric identities, and sequences and series. TI 83 or TI 84 graphing calculators highly recommended.
Math	Real World Math	12	Year	Algebra 2	This course focuses on topics covered at the college level. Students will be working with probability, statistics, linear functions, trigonometry, and systems of equations.
Science	Anatomy & Physiology	11-12	Year	Biology	Anatomy and Physiology is a course that investigates the structure and function of the human body. Topics covered will include the basic organization of the body; biochemical composition; and major body systems along with the impact of diseases on certain systems. Working from the topics of basic anatomical terminology to the biochemical composition of the human body, all the way into great detail of each of the major systems of the body, students will learn through reading materials, online simulations, lecture, group work, projects, and dissections and labs. Dissections will be a mandatory part of this course. One of the goals of this course is to prepare students with the skills necessary to be successful in future science classes in college.

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Science	<i>Biology</i>	10	Year	Physical Science	Biology is a class focusing on the study of life, and all of the components that come together to make this possible. Students will learn about the living world by focusing on topics that include ecology, classification, cells and physiology, genetics and heredity, and evolution. Students will explore these concepts through textbook reading, online simulations, class discussions, group work and projects, and various hands-on laboratory activities. This will be a class where students can discuss a multitude of topics, and share insight with each other to help further their development as scientists. One of the goals of this course is to prepare students with the skills necessary to be successful in future advanced science classes.
Science	<i>Chemistry</i>	10-12	Year	Physical Science, Biology	Chemistry is the study of the matter that the universe is made of, specifically how it is arranged, why it rearranges, and the resulting effects. We will explore how atomic structure and bonds explain the physical and chemical properties of materials, including reactions in our bodies and other every day phenomena. Chemistry is key to things as simple as every day "life hacks" to more complex issues, pertaining to our survival as a species. Chemistry is a college preparatory science class. The laboratory portion is heavy and uses practical wet chemistry methods that will prepare you to walk into college level chemistry extremely prepared and experienced.
Science	<i>Environmental Science</i>	11-12	Year	Physical Science, Biology	Environmental science uses student's prior knowledge in biology, chemistry, physics, and geology to explore the complex relationship between humans and the environment. Topics covered include the atmosphere, geologic events such as earthquakes and plate tectonics, energy flow through ecosystems, food production, deforestation, biodiversity, population ecology, waste management, energy resources and resource availability, as well as sources of pollution and air quality. Environmental science is an applied science that connects science with social studies.

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Science	Health	9	Semester	None	Health is a class focusing on the best techniques to develop an overall healthy life as an adolescent adult. The class will focus on 3 main areas of health: physical, social and mental. The course will include a wide range of exploratory topics including self esteem, relationships, nutrition, decision-making, stress, and systems of the body.
Science	Physical Science	9	Year	None	This course is designed to serve as a foundation for other high school science courses. It will emphasize the basic laws of chemistry and physics. Laboratory and problem solving activities will be utilized to cover the curriculum. Course content will include: forces, motion, energy, waves, electricity, atoms & the periodic table, classification of matter, chemical bonding and reactions, the evolution of stars and galaxies.
Science	Physics	11-12	Year	Physical Science, Algebra I, Geometry	Physics is a natural science that involves the study of matter and its motion through space and time. One of the most fundamental scientific disciplines, the main goal of physics is to understand how the universe behaves. This course is designed to expand student understanding of physics concepts and ideas obtained in physical science. Much of the course is algebra-based, students should have earned a C or higher in Algebra 1 prior to joining this course. The topics covered will include Newtonian mechanics, forces, motion, energy, waves, electricity and modern physics concepts.
Science	Zoology	11-12	Year	Biology	This course discusses the branch of biology that deals with animals and animal life, including the study of the structure, physiology, development, and classification of animals. Some of the topics discussed include the classification of animals; invertebrates such as sponges, annelids, flatworms, mollusks, arthropods, and echinoderms; and vertebrates including fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Dissections will be a mandatory part of this course. This course is challenging, and is designed for the college-bound student.

ACPA Course Offerings Catalog

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Social Studies	AP Government and Politics	11-12	Year	Instructor Approval	AP Government and Politics is two courses in one. During the first semester, students will study the structure and powers of the U.S. government, as well as examining the interaction between political parties, the media, and interest groups. Students should be prepared for lively discussions, and to discuss current events and the political climate in the United States. During the second semester, students will study the government and political and economic cultures of the United Kingdom, Russia, Iran, Mexico, China, and Nigeria. As with the course in U.S. government, students should be prepared to discuss current events. There is the opportunity to earn credit for two college courses by taking and passing both AP exams in May. This course can replace the regular Government course. There is no need to take regular U.S. Government first.
Social Studies	AP U.S. History	10-12	Year	Instructor Approval	The goal of this course is to provide students with a relevant, meaningful, and deep understanding of United States History, as well as prepare you for the AP exam. This survey course examines United States History, in chronological order, from prehistory on the American continent to present. It is an intensive, college-level course that is approved by the College Board. Students must master factual knowledge and concepts, as well as historical thinking skills in preparation for the AP exam. This course can replace the regular U.S. History course. There is no need to take regular U.S. History first.
Social Studies	Government	11-12	Year	World History, U.S. History	The Government course will examine the origins and foundations of American government and the Constitution, as well as examining how government has changed over time. Students will also examine the structures and powers of the U.S. government and Ohio's government. Over the course, students will learn to develop their own voice to participate in civil society.

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Social Studies	<i>U.S. History</i>	10	Year	World History	U.S. History is a survey course of major periods in United States History from 1877 to 2001. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to describe and analyze major events and patterns in United States History, identify cause and effect relationships in relation to specific periods of history, and interpret evidence from primary sources, including visual art and music. This course builds on the arts-integrated mission of the school by incorporating visual and performing arts as students master the Ohio's Learning Standards.
Social Studies	<i>Psychology</i>	11-12	Year	World History, U.S. History	In this class we will be studying how psychology applies to our family, our friends, our communities, and ourselves. This course will focus on studying multiple aspects of psychology, and will serve as a survey course to briefly touch on many of the individual components that make up psychology as a whole. I hope you are as excited as I am to get started!
Social Studies	<i>World History</i>	9	Year	None	The focus of this class is to give students a global perspective of Modern World History from 1700 to present. Students will develop their ability to identify, analyze, and evaluate information pertaining to world cultures and events. A main goal of this course is to encourage and teach students to use this knowledge, along with other research to interpret and communicate historical arguments. In addition, students will also cultivate their research skills. Skills they will develop include selecting topics, collecting and interpreting data, analyzing primary and secondary sources, and creating and defending a thesis.
Theatre	<i>Freshmen Acting</i>	9	Semester	None	This semester class is for incoming Freshmen who are interested in getting up on stage. No prior experience is necessary, and we will learn everything from Improv basics to acting in short plays.
Theatre	<i>Freshmen Musical Theatre</i>	9	Semester	None	This semester class is for incoming Freshmen who want to strut their stuff with musical theatre. We will work on a variety of songs from different shows to practice choreography, harmony, and performance skills.

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Theatre	<i>Musical Theatre</i>	10-11	Year	None	This year in musical theatre we will focus on Movement for Musical Theatre. Students will learn a variety of movement styles that will be used to create movement for songs, and to express character and emotion while performing.
Theatre	<i>Musical Theatre Dance</i>	10-11	Year	None	Musical Theatre dance is a chance to do a wide variety of musical dance styles by learning and performing famous choreography from shows. This is a strenuous class, but so worth it and really fun.
Theatre	<i>Theatre Compositions</i>	12	Year	One Theatre class in the past 4 years of high school.	Theatre Compositions is a senior level class for theatre kids who are ready to write their own stuff. We will learn playwriting techniques and then apply them to create a variety of works from scenes, to devised group works, to short plays.
Theatre	<i>Theatre Creative Process</i>	10-11	Year	None	In acting class this year we will learn a variety of movements styles for the actor and use them in variety of scripts to create staging, emotion, and characterization.
Theatre	<i>Theater Styles: Comedy and Improv</i>	10-12	Year	None	Students will explore techniques and styles of comedy in the theater and use those traditions to build a performance. Students will expand their range of movement, and connect movement not only to character and to intention, but also to its effect on the audience. Students will also work with masked performance and stage combat, connecting the skills of comedy to traditions in the theater such as Commedia Dell'arte and satire. Students will learn to create a performance from scratch, using improv skills and techniques focused on creating characters, and on comedy and scene building. This class builds towards a public performance at ACPA near the end of the Semester.
Visual Art	<i>Advanced Ceramics</i>	11-12	Year	Ceramics, Instructor Recommendation	If you loved Ceramics and you are up for the challenge of taking it to the next level, this class is for you! Through advanced techniques, the chance to work on the wheel and more student-directed projects, you can make your ideas into a reality. Bring your ambition and work ethic!

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Visual Art	<i>AP Art & Design</i>	11-12	Year	Instructor Permission	Students who are highly motivated and want to push themselves to make their best artwork should consider taking this challenging course. Build a high-quality portfolio through in-depth exploration of the Elements and Principles of Art, a supportive studio setting, and creative personal vision. You will be expected to stretch outside of your comfort zone to create a portfolio with a large variety of media, techniques and approaches to art making as well as to focus on your own BIG IDEAS.
Visual Art	<i>Ceramics</i>	10-12	Year	None	There is nothing quite like playing in the mud! If you like construction and want to see your ideas come to life with clay and the colors of glaze, this class is for you.
Visual Art	<i>Fashion & Figure 2</i>	11-12	Year	Fashion and Figure 1	Take your skills to the next level in fashion design & illustration, hand and machine sewing. Students will work through specific sewing skills and tackle projects of increasing challenge building on knowledge from Fashion 1. Historical & contemporary fashion history is explored through research & presentations. Students have the opportunity to be a part of our annual fashion show in the spring.
Visual Art	<i>Freshman Visual Art</i>	9	Semester	None	Become familiar with the art studios at ACPA while you dabble and delve into different art making techniques, styles and approaches. Your main tools for this class will be a sketchbook/visual journal, your imagination and your willingness to try new things.
Visual Art	<i>Pre AP Art & Design</i>	11-12	Year	Visual Art Studio, Instructor Permission	Observe, investigate and experiment in this accelerated course designed to get you ready for AP 2D Art & Design/AP Drawing or college-level art courses. Techniques and ideas are equally as important. You will engage in peer-to-peer dialogue as well as reflective writing to take you to your own highest level of art making. Can concurrently enroll in AP Art & Design/AP Drawing
Visual Art	<i>Visual Art Studio</i>	10-12	Year	None	If you like visual art and want to get better, this is the class for you! This course offers exposure to a wide range of art concerns, including: drawing, color and design. You will complete this course with an understanding of many processes and modes of working, and be inspired to take your new skills to the next level. This is the prerequisite for upper level visual art classes at ACPA.

ACPA Course Offerings Catalog

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Vocal Music	<i>AP Music Theory</i>	11-12	Year	Music Theory, Instructor Permission	AP Music Theory is designed for students who require it for career study as well as those who desire it for enrichment. This rigorous course expands on the skills learned in the prerequisite music theory course. Musical composition, analysis, dictation, and sight singing are some of the many applications employed to further student understanding of music theory. Though the main emphasis is placed on music of the Common Practice period (1600-1900), music of other stylistic periods are also studied.
Vocal Music	<i>Freshman Choir</i>	9	Semester	None	This beginning level course is for students who enjoy singing and wish to pursue voice training. Various standard classical works, Broadway, and pop music selections will be studied and performed. Students will study proper singing techniques, including breathing, diction, posture, and tone. Students will also spend time studying solfege and the practice of sight singing. Participation in all dress rehearsals and public performances are an integral and necessary part of mixed choir.
Vocal Music	<i>Keyboarding</i>	9	Semester	None	This introductory course familiarizes students with the basic elements of piano playing. It is designed for individuals with little or no experience playing the piano. Students will read music, learn finger techniques, study chords, and play melodies. Because this course is largely performance based, students will be assessed not only on their music reading but also on in-class and at home practice techniques and performance.
Vocal Music	<i>Mixed Choir</i>	10-12	Year	None	This course is for students who enjoy singing and wish to pursue voice training. Various standard classical works, Broadway, and pop music selections will be studied and performed. Students will study proper singing techniques, including breathing, diction, posture, and tone. Students will also spend time studying solfege and the practice of sight singing. Participation in all dress rehearsals and public performances are an integral and necessary part of mixed choir.

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Vocal Music	<i>Music Theory</i>	10-12	Year	Student should be a singer or instrumentalist already.	This course is recommended for students with beginning to intermediate music skills. The emphasis of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the fundamentals of music including note reading, rhythmic values, time signature, dynamics and articulation, scales, chords, and modes. Students will participate in a variety of activities to enhance learning including ear training, sight-reading, and musical composition.