

# Syllabus



**Teacher:** Brenda Currin – email: [currinb@gcs.k12.nc.us](mailto:currinb@gcs.k12.nc.us)

**Course length and credit:**

One semester credit per class

## **Visual Arts 1:**

Visual Arts 1 offers a rich introduction to art skills and concepts. Using video, print, and online resources, students will explore art concepts: the design process, art in history, art in modern culture, art as a means of expression and as a means of communication, the connection of visual arts with music and performing arts, the science of light and color. Students will experiment with a variety of media such as drawing, sculpture, painting, photography, and multimedia work. Throughout the course, discussions and observations of visual arts resources will help students make connections with science, history, literature, technology, and other courses they are taking at GCHS.

## **Visual Arts 2, 3 and 4:**

Visual Arts 2, 3 and 4 build on the skills and concepts introduced in Art 1 and continuing through the Art course sequence. Students will explore more advanced painting techniques, pen and ink, paper arts, and clay sculpture. They will use computers to learn digital art skills including photographic manipulation in Photoshop. They will investigate art concepts in more depth: the elements of art and design, the design process, significant artists and art movements in history and modern culture, art careers. Students working through this sequence will build a portfolio suitable for presentation to schools and employers.

## **Honors courses:**

Students who opt to receive Honors credits in Art will be expected to complete additional assignments, including research projects focusing on Art history and the current Art marketplace. They will also be expected to do artwork at home on a regular basis, including sketches and journals. They will participate in a rigorous program of critiques and analysis of their own work and others' artwork.

## **Textbook:**

Textbooks and resources are available for student use in the classroom.  
The Internet is a major source of information and resources for this program.

## **Website:**

[www.gchsArt.com](http://www.gchsArt.com)

The gchsArt.com website serves as an outline for all Visual Arts classes. Any student who does not have adequate access to the Internet from home must speak to Ms. Currin about using the Internet in the classroom or in the Media Center.

## **Supplementary materials:**

Students can use Internet, household magazines, and other things they see in their daily life for independent projects and to supplement class activities. Students who have no access to Internet should inform Ms. Currin. They can use alternate resources for assignments and handouts.

## **Assessment and grading:**

Learning, work, and safety skills (weekly grade)  
Portfolio and projects

40% of grade of semester grade  
60% of grade of semester grade

Final exam

25 % of semester grade

**Expectations:**

Ms. Currin expects all students to observe and listen attentively to classroom instruction and presentations. She expects students to participate appropriately in discussions and activities. She expects students to follow all safety guidelines and to participate with sincere effort in all exercise and practice activities. She expects students to follow all class rules and procedures, and to follow all GCHS rules.

**Course requirements:**

Students are required to spend the entire class time working on class assignments and projects. There is no free time.

**Independent projects:**

Students may choose from a wide variety of independent projects to complete at home or in class (after completing regular assignments). Projects completed at home count as makeup work or extra credit.

**Makeup work:**

Students are required to turn in at least 90 minutes worth of makeup work for each day of class they miss.

- They may select from any of the independent projects offered for the class.
- Makeup work must be turned in within 2 days of the absence.
- It must be **clearly labeled** as Makeup Work along with the **date of the absence**.

**Remediation practices:**

Ms Currin will help interested students select class and homework activities to remediate specific skills and/or areas of knowledge.

**Curriculum alignment:**

Course objectives for each unit are included on our website. Each unit is also aligned with the NC 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills (draft) document, and curriculum integration links are indicated.