

**Bedford High School  
Visual Art Department  
Sean Hagan, Program Director**

**Course Syllabus**

**Course 7425/7424 Art 4 Major/Minor  
Level 5/4**

This course promotes extensive independent work based on individual abilities, ideas, and interests for the completion of the Senior Portfolio and the production of an original art book and the Senior Installation. Students should be able to demonstrate the ability to develop clear intellectual and emotional reasons for creating artworks from a personal point of view. The portfolio and installation are the culmination of the student's creative efforts to apply all of his or her drawing, compositional, technical, and aesthetic skills. The results of these efforts will provide a personal record of the student's creative potential for pursuing an art career or developing lifelong interests in the visual arts.

Periods per cycle: 4/2 Credit: 5/2.5

Prerequisite: Three years of art or approval of the Program Director.

**Primary responsibility for the following academic expectations:**

**Active Learners:**

- 1a: Students will understand and use what they learn
- 1c: Students will engage in inquiry and self-directed learning
- 1d: Students will use feedback and self-reflection to extend learning

**Resourceful Thinkers:**

- 2a: Students will employ creative thinking skills
- 2d: Students will make meaningful connections

**Effective Communicators:**

- 3b: Students will express knowledge and skill creatively using a variety of media, technology and the arts
- 3c: Students will engage effectively in discussion

**Learning Objectives**

By the completion of this course, the successful student will have:

- a. Demonstrated an advanced application of the uses commonly associated with two mediums in the categories of painting, sculpture, graphics, printmaking and computer design media; and a proficient application in the remaining mediums.
- b. Demonstrated the ability to skillfully prepare artworks for presentation and exhibition as a solo exhibitor in a site specific environment.
- c. Demonstrated knowledge of the care and handling of tools and materials.
- d. Articulated their understanding of specific masterworks of art by working in the manner of a particular artist and/or style.
- e. Articulated visually and verbally the essential differences between classical, romantic, and realistic temperaments as it relates directly to their own artworks.
- f. Demonstrated an understanding of underlying structures relative to the invention and expression of visual forms in space.

- g. Produced a documentation in the form of a book as a culminating visual statement representing their cumulative art experiences, creative development, and personal growth.
- h. Produced a body of work in specific media which is a meaningful reflection of their personal interactions with important themes, issues, and interests.
- i. Developed a keen appreciation for the values of self-motivation, independence, critical thinking, creative problem solving, and personal responsibility.

### **Learning Experiences**

*In this course, students will:*

- a. Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the creative process through the practice of experimentation, journal keeping, discussion, critique, final resolution, and aesthetic judgment, culminating in the production of a project using the concept of a book, either literally or as a metaphor.
- b. Complete and prepare a portfolio exhibit as well as a portfolio for college admissions and review.
- c. Develop an appreciation for group dynamics, cooperative experiences, class presentations, discussion, and teaming.
- d. Maintain a portfolio of works in progress as well as completed work, a journal sketchbook, and miscellaneous homework activities.

### **Course Outline**

In this course, students will explore the following (or similar) topics:

- a. Life Drawing
- b. Developing a series of works expressing a theme in drawing, painting, mixed media and sculpture.
- c. Artist's books – a journey
- d. Senior Art Installation
- e. Online portfolio – creating a web page

### **Course Materials**

In this course, students will utilize the following materials:

- a. Graphic materials such as charcoal, graphite, ebony pencils, colored pencils, pastels, conte crayons, oil crayons, markers, ink pens.
- b. Paint materials such as acrylic paint, acrylic mediums, watercolor, gouache, bristle and sable brushes, palette knives.
- c. Paint grounds such as modeling paste, textured gels, gesso, various cardboards and illustration board.
- d. Sculptural materials such as pariscraft, plaster, styrofoam or foam board, balsa wood, utility board, corrugated cardboard, found materials, clay.
- e. Printmaking materials such as water-based printing inks, linocutting tools, brayers, and ink mediums.
- f. Computer technology – computers with design software such as Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Flash and color printers.
- g. Visual resources such as art reproductions, visual art periodicals, magazines and images online.