Course Overview: Foundations of Art

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period: **September**
Length:
Status: **Published**

School Mission Statement

The mission of Chartertech is to provide artists the opportunity to blend principles of artistic expression with cutting-edge technology, so artists will excel in academic, career, and civic pursuits and contribute to the harmony and productivity of the 21" century.

Artistic integration: Performing arts will be accessible to all artists as a skill and content area and will serve as a vehicle for imparting, enlivening, and motivating excellence in all academic topics, as well as providing a platform for learning multicultural appreciation and empathy, not just tolerance.

Technological integration: Technology will serve as the foundation for instructional delivery systems leading to knowledge acquisition, concept understanding, and skill mastery in all academic subjects. Technology will not be studied as a separate entity but infused into the very fabric of educational pursuits, exactly as it occurs in the business world. Artists will be prepared to compete in the modern workplace or post-secondary institution.

"Education has always been torn between vocational and utilitarian purposes on one hand and creative and holistic purposes on the other... We are rapidly entering a world that is hard to imagine. By developing the problem-solving skills, creativity, and discipline required in the arts, artists can prepare for life in the 21st century."

From Understanding How the Arts Contribute to Excellent Education

National Endowment for the Arts, 1991

School Goals

<u>Goals for Arts Education:</u>
Artists will learn the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to turn their passions and gifts in the arts into vocations or serious avocations.

Objective 1:   Each year, each artist will take two semesters (10 credits) of career-oriented training (80 minutes per day) in their artistic major.
Objective 2:   Each marking period, each artist will perform or produce frequently, in diverse settings and for diverse audiences.

Objective 3: Artistic instruction will be integrated into the study of all academic subjects.

Objective 4: Each year, each artist will complete at least twenty after-school "lab" hours in their artistic major. These will constitute career-oriented service to the school and/or community, and demonstrate accomplishment of the NJCCCS crosscutting workplace readiness standards.

Goal for Technology:
Chartertech will model the technology-intense workplace and artists will be able to compete successfully and perform well in a technology-intense workplace.

Objective 5: Each artist will routinely use technology in a workplace-like manner to acquire, analyze, communicate, and present information in every subject.

Objective 6: Each artist will have access to a computer every day, every class so that automated sources will be the main conduit for educational content.

Objective 7: All administrative and instructional functions of the school will be supported by the most modern technology available.

Goals for Academic Achievement:
Artists will apply themselves in the serious pursuit of knowledge and skills, especially skills in critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, and communication.

Objective 8: Each year, and to be promoted to the next grade each artist will pass five credits in English, Health, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and PE/Health. Between grades 9-12 artists will also complete 1year of Spanish.

Objective 9: In each academic subject, each year, each artist will complete a significant project that involves critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, and communication skills, and which demonstrates cross-content workplace readiness skills.

Objective 10: Each year artists will develop a artist resume to guide his/her academic and artistic studies and to document his/her academic and artistic accomplishments. This work will be done under the mentorship of the faculty in the artist's artistic major.

Objective 11: Academic instruction in all subjects will be highly cross-curricular, in accordance with curricula design and continuously improved by teachers, in compliance with the New Jersey Artist Learning Standards.

Course Description

Course Title:	Foundations of Art
Department:	Fine Art
Prerequisite:	N/A
Number of Credits:	5
Grade Level(s):	9,10,11,12

Standards:	Aligned to New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Visual and Performing Arts
Description of Course	Foundations in Art is a year long visual art course that is an introduction to the fine arts. Artists will engage in art-making while fully immersing in art history, contemporary art, problem-solving, and aesthetic theories. There will be an emphasis on drawing with a strong focus on the Elements and Principles of Art. Artists will be introduced to a variety of mediums in this course which includes pastels, charcoals, pencils, watercolor, acrylic Paint, etching, and printmaking. Unit 1 delineates the Elements of Art, or the building blocks to the visual arts. The Elements of Art provide artists with a common language and standard for evaluating, discussing, and creating artwork. Unit 2 paves a solid foundation in basic drawing skills. Artists learn to use traditional tools and aids in addition to skills in freehand drawing. Artists will use the grid and other methods of systematic drawing. This unit focuses on sharpening observational skills, which ultimately leads to stronger spatial recognition and understanding. Unit 3 explores the concept of linear perspective. Artists will consider the idea that objects in the distance will appear smaller and blurrier, as opposed to objects in the foreground that will appear larger and clearer. Linear perspective gives artists the technical process to creating this illusion of space. Unit 4 builds upon artists' understanding of spatial planes, artists will dive into topics of proportion that concentrate on figure drawing and portraiture. Artists learn the appropriate standards and proportions of the human figure and face. These standards include the 8-Head Standard, and the mathematical measurements of the human face. Unit 5 is the introduction to color. Artists will compare and contrast color theory and color practice while evaluating the use of color throughout art history. Artists will create artwork using an array of media, such as colored pencils, acrylic paints, oil pastels, and watercolors. Artists will explore color groupings, color relationships, and color perception, in addition to color psychology. Artists will be asked to assess the use of color in their everyday lives and its use in real-world application. Unit 6 delineates the Principles of Design. These principles (balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, pattern, rhythm, and unity/variety) will be explored with discussion, experimentation and creating artwork

Overview & Pacing

Unit #	Major Content	Expected Time
Elements of Art		approximately 3 weeks
Foundations of Drawing		approximately 5 weeks
2 & 3 Point Perspective		approximately 5 weeks

Figure and Portrait Drawing		approximately 4 weeks
Color Theory		approximately 12 weeks
Foundations of Design		approximately 6 weeks