

UPPER SCHOOL



FINE
ARTS

25-26

Fine Arts

Performing art classes (Dance & Performance, Instrumental Music Ensemble) can be taken for one semester, in the fall or spring, but must be taken as a yearlong course to meet UC eligibility requirements. Most Arts classes take place during the A-G schedule, with only a few options during E period.

Yearlong UC-Approved Courses

2D Art

Dive into color, line, and form through an exploration of two dimensional art techniques using a wide variety of media. This course will help students learn to see, interpret what they see, and build on technical skills through creative exploration that challenges and expands their ideas. If students enjoy drawing and 2D media, this course will help them to improve and develop their skills at any level. It will introduce the fundamental principles of design and ways of seeing, allowing students to interpret and analyze what they see while developing specific sets of skills related to each medium.



Students work from objects, still life set-ups, landscapes, live animals, organic and natural forms, structures, secondhand imagery (such as photographs and work by recognized artists), the human figure and their imaginations. Skills will be developed in small and large scale in painting (acrylic, watercolor, glazing, encaustics), drawing (graphite & pencils, pen & ink, washes, charcoal, pastel), printmaking (dry point, etching, collagraph, screen, mono, block, viscosity printing, Chine-collé, cyanotype), collage, photomontage, and mixed media techniques. There is a strong focus on the link between historical and contemporary art issues, and slide and video presentations will provide both example and context for individual projects. A field trip to the SF MoMA and local art galleries will give students a better understanding of the contexts and innovative and provocative uses of materials and subject matter in contemporary and modern art. The course will conclude with an individual project that reflects personal interest and student work will be exhibited in the Spring Festival of the Arts. Sketchbook assignments, ongoing individual feedback, and class critiques will help students learn to recognize the elements of a successful artwork, improve their skills, and become comfortable discussing their creative process.

3D Design and Fabrication

This studio art class makes use of the tools in the Maker Studio and 3D Art classroom, including 3D Printing to create art. It will touch on the fields of architecture and furniture design, will involve mold-making to create multiples, and more. Students will learn to design in three dimensions while also learning different techniques to bring their creations into real, usable forms. This class will teach all different methods of fabrication from using digital tools to building with their hands. In this class, they will make the transition from working with the illusionistic space of two-dimensional art, to "real," three-dimensional space. We will look at the world of manufactured objects, and how artists and designers engage in cultural critique by playing with our expectations about these objects. The assignments for this class are intended to blur the boundaries of functional design and art, while teaching the important concepts and principles of three-dimensional design. They will also learn a new fabrication technique with each assignment, through a series of hands-on demonstrations. Formal issues and expressive potential will be discussed in relation to each assignment, as well as issues like creative problem-solving.

Chamber Music Ensemble

Instructor permission is needed to register for this course.

Chamber Music Ensemble is a year-long course for instrumentalists wishing to learn new musical repertoire and gain experience in an ensemble setting. Students are expected to provide their own instrument (with the exception of pianos and percussion instruments) and practice outside of class for a minimum of 30 minutes per day.

This is not a class for beginners but for those who already have basic music skills. Our music ensembles are formed to introduce our students to ensemble instruction, literature, and musicianship. We will learn music from a variety of style periods including Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th century music, and contemporary repertoire. The music is selected to



challenge and engage the students, and several performances are scheduled throughout the year in order to motivate students to work together toward a collective goal. Students are asked to listen to one another and follow the cues of their director; more advanced students will have the opportunity to play in smaller groups and lead each other. In most cases the music will be arranged specifically for the ensemble. This class continues technical training with an emphasis on playing in an ensemble regardless of technical level. Students are required to enroll for the entire school year. All students are encouraged to study with a

private teacher outside of school. Concert attendance is mandatory. *Contact Ken Berman to schedule an audition.*

Concert Choir

Starting Fall 2025, this course will be UC-approved and count towards the Athenian Arts graduation requirement. Instructor permission is needed to register for this course.

This class meets during the E period in order to prepare musical selections from a variety of styles (classical, gospel, R&B, Broadway, and pop) for the Fall and Spring Concerts, while simultaneously addressing essential choral concepts such as breathing technique, blend, tone, and healthy vocal production. Basic sight-singing and music theory are also covered. Opportunities for solos are available to students who are enrolled in the course. This choir class is open to all. **This class is a prerequisite for the Advanced Choir class.**

Dance & Performance

This course is UC-approved and counts towards the Athenian Arts graduation requirement. Instructor permission is needed to register for this course.

Learn to make original dances with other students and professional dance artists. Have a great time with other students making dances in the dance styles that you enjoy! To get the most out of this course you need to have an open mind, open heart, and have an interest in meaningful collaboration and artmaking. Our performance group is called the *PLACE* Collective. Students are invited to have an authentic artistic experience - cultivating individual expression and collaborative artmaking while developing as a dance artist. Choreographic collaboration between students and the artist mentor/faculty is emphasized. Students enjoy the accomplishment of performing original choreography that they help to create for the Fall and Spring concerts. Other experiences in this course include field trip experiences to see dance concerts, exploring different dance styles in unique and FUN *PLAY* shops led by other students, as well as professional Bay Area choreographers.



This class meets 2 times a week: Wednesdays (Electives) & Fridays (Period E)

Students in the Dance & Performance course must also do one hour minimum of Dance Technique/PE per week or be enrolled in Independent PE – Dance.

This course serves as a prerequisite for Adv. Dance & Performance.

Filmmaking

Do you want to create the Next Big YouTube, Movie, or TV Hit! Do you have a story to tell? A vision to share? In this hands-on filmmaking class, you'll learn the essential skills to turn your ideas into powerful, professional-quality films. We start with the foundation of all great films: storytelling. You'll discover what makes an audience lean in, crafting narratives that captivate and scripts that bring them to life. Then, you'll dive into pre-production, transforming your story into a concrete plan for shooting. Next, you'll step behind the camera—or in front of it! Whether you're filming with a smartphone or one of our digital cameras, you'll learn how to frame shots, direct actors, and capture compelling visuals. Once the footage is in hand, you'll bring it all together in post-production, using professional editing software to cut scenes, add music, and create stunning effects that make your film stand out. Your work won't just stay in the classroom. The best films will premiere at our film festivals. Some of our students have even had their films selected for top high school film festivals—including the biggest one in the world! Let's make movie magic!

Glass

This is a yearlong class focused on alchemy and glass. As a discipline and a material, glass is inherently connected to alchemy. Their combined histories have shaped our understanding of the relationship between material and meaning, the role of process in art and science and, ultimately, the ways in which making shapes knowledge. Our research will combine the examination of practical, theoretical, and "hands-on" experiments in glass.

Throughout the course, students will be introduced to various processes involved in kilnforming glass, stained glass, and cutting and gluing glass. They will gain experience with computerized kiln controllers, glass cutting, stained glass, writing firing programs, annealing, mold making practices, lost wax casting, fusing, and slumping processes, cold working, and relevant material handling skills. Students will be strongly encouraged to direct their acquired skills towards their own ideas and towards exploring within and beyond traditional media boundaries. The ultimate purpose of this class is to introduce students to the material of glass as a material from which to make art.

Instrumental Music Ensemble

Instructor permission is needed to register for this course.

This class meets during E period to rehearse musical selections from a variety of jazz styles (Jazz, R&B, Rock, and Blues) for the Fall and Spring Concerts, while simultaneously addressing essential instrumental techniques and music theory. Basic sight-reading is also covered. Emphasis is placed on participation, exposure, and development, helping to build a life-long love and appreciation for music. The class is open to all Upper School students and instrumentalists. There is a cap at 35 students, so instructor approval is needed to register for the course. Students wishing to fulfill their UC art credit in music may do so by participating in this class at the fullest level for both semesters, including concerts, the musical, rehearsals,

etc. These students are required to submit documentation of weekly practice. This class is a prerequisite for the Advanced Instrumental Music class. *Contact Ken Berman to schedule an audition.*

Photography

This studio course introduces students to the art of photography, starting with the basics of image capture using a digital camera and ending in the creation of original self-directed projects. Technically, students will learn to go beyond auto mode and understand the technology for controlling their camera as well as the fundamentals of digital processing on a computer. This class will also introduce students to Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom for editing and managing image files. At the same time, this is really a visual literacy course, with much of the class being built around making images and discussing them in class through the critique process. They will learn to conceptualize a project, how to see deeply and create meaning from the world around them, as well as gain an understanding of photography as a visual language. In addition to creative work, we explore the history of photography with a mix of deep dives into key moments of photography's growth along with student research projects on historical photographers. At the end of the class students will be expected to produce an online portfolio. Students will need to have access to a digital (DSLR) camera with RAW capture, manual control of aperture and shutter. No prior photographic experience is necessary to take this course, but it's also not too basic for the experienced enthusiast. This course is designed for those who want to develop their photography skills beyond "point and shoot" and learn to develop their artistic voice in photography.

Sculpture

This sculpture class will explore projects that utilize conceptual ideas to generate a process for creating three-dimensional art. Students will learn how to analyze and create two-dimensional artwork and use that work to design three dimensional sculptures and installations. We will examine art movements and artists' work, especially the cubist movement and concepts of juxtaposition, montage, abstraction, and geometric assemblages. Students will create projects that are based on personal narratives and transfer those narratives into sculptures. Each semester will have five projects. The final class project will be self-directed. We will use multiple materials and experiment with multiple techniques of making three-dimensional forms at multiple scales.

Advanced Yearlong UC-Approved Courses

Advanced Art (H)

Open to 11th and 12th grade students only.

Prerequisite: Any yearlong visual art class and/or the permission of the instructor, Sally Baker.

This course is designed for highly motivated students who are looking for an intensive year-long experience in visual art, exploring ways of communicating in 2D, 3D, and conceptual media. Students must have already taken a yearlong class in the visual arts and want to challenge their own expectations and boundaries through more independent projects. Students should be empowered to become autonomous, informed, and skilled visual artists; the teacher's role will be to actively and carefully organize learning experiences for students, directing their study to enable them to explore ideas and media to create a personal, meaningful and coherent body of work. To ensure both depth and breadth of knowledge and understanding, students will explore



and compare visual arts from different perspectives and in different contexts. Students are expected to engage in, experiment with, and critically reflect upon a wide range of contemporary practices and media and will have access to all available studio equipment and materials. Slide and video presentations and a field trip to the SF MoMA and local art galleries will give students a better understanding of the contexts and innovative and provocative uses of materials and subject matter in contemporary and modern art. Sketchbooks will be provided for drawings, notes, preparatory sketches, media studies, reflection, evaluations, documentation of coursework and discussions, and critical and contextual analysis of conceptual content in their own and other's work. It may be used as a means to receive guidance for putting together an art portfolio for college applications or AP Studio Art submissions, however no AP credit is given for this course.

Advanced Chamber Music Ensemble (H)

Instructor permission is needed to register for this course.

Advanced Chamber Music Ensemble is a year-long course for instrumentalists wishing to study a wide variety of "classical" musical repertoire and gain experience in an ensemble setting. Students are expected to provide their own instrument (with some exceptions) and practice outside of class for a minimum of 30 minutes per day. This is a class for those who already have advanced music skills. The Chamber ensemble is formed to introduce our

students to ensemble instruction, literature, and musicianship. We will learn music from a variety of style periods including Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th century music, and contemporary repertoire. The music is selected to challenge and engage the students, and several public performances are scheduled in order to motivate students to work together toward a collective goal. Students are asked to listen to one another closely and follow the cues of their director. This class meets together with students in the Chamber Ensemble. Advanced students will be required to play in smaller sectionals, lead each other, take on other leadership roles, and participate in a minimum of 5 performances each year. In most cases the music will be arranged specifically for each ensemble. Students are required to enroll for the entire school year. All students are encouraged to study with a private teacher outside of school for at least six lessons per semester. Concert attendance is mandatory. *Contact Ken Berman to schedule an audition.*

Advanced Choir (H)

Prerequisite: Concert Choir and audition with the instructor, Emily Shinkle.

The Advanced Choir (a.k.a. The hOWLers) class meets during the regular daily schedule. Students interested in taking the course must audition for the class. The choral repertoire studied in Advanced Choir requires singers to have greater vocal and musical independence. The audition will focus on skills such as sight-singing, pitch matching, harmonizing, and blending which are prerequisites for the class. The course will also include more advanced sight-singing and music theory concepts, as well as arranging skills, keyboard skills, and conducting skills. The class is open to 10-12th graders, but enrollment is capped and preference is given to students who have completed at least a semester of Concert Choir. This course culminates in a performance at the Fall and Spring concerts. Please note that the Advanced Choir traditionally takes one or two weekend field trips during the year – the approximate cost of each trip is roughly \$500.



Advanced Dance & Performance - PLACE Collective (H)

Open to 11th and 12th grade students by the permission of the instructor, [Laura Ellis](#).

Prerequisite: Dance & Performance (UC) or Spring Semester Dance & Performance.

Create and perform an independent student dance project, learn how to teach a dance class, and explore the fascinating history of dance & performance! This course offers students a creative and student-centered experience in dance making (composition), how to plan and

teach dance (pedagogy practicum), dance art and culture (dance history). Students appreciate that the majority of the coursework (95%) takes place in the classroom/dance studio.

Students in this course get to create original choreography for our performance group the *PLACE* Collective - cultivating student leadership and expanding your authentic artistic voice, individual expression, and collaborative artmaking. Mentoring and collaboration between students offers wonderful support for your creative process. Student-led projects are at the heart of this course experience, and you will share your student dance projects through performance opportunities in the Spring semester. Other experiences in this course include field trip experiences to see dance concerts, student-led *PLAY*shops, master classes, and choreographic *PLAY*shops with professionals in the field.

This class meets three (3) times per week during E Period.

Students in the Adv. Dance & Performance course must also do one hour minimum of Dance Technique/PE per week or be enrolled in Ind. PE – Dance.

Advanced Filmmaking (H)

Prerequisite: Filmmaking, Portfolio, or by the permission of the instructor, [Peter Tamaribuchi](#).

Elevate your filmmaking skills beyond the basics and create powerful, festival-ready films. This advanced course is designed for students who are serious about storytelling, cinematography, performance and editing—whether for YouTube, streaming platforms, or the big screen. We begin by analyzing the mechanics of high-impact storytelling including documentary and dialogue comedies and dramas. Then, you'll dive in a professional-style pre-production process, including story boarding. On set, you'll master cinematography and directing, with a focus on lighting, composition, and visual storytelling. You'll also explore directing actors for authentic, emotionally resonant performances or running professional documentary interviews. In post-production, you'll edit with industry-standard software, incorporating advanced cutting techniques, color grading and sound design. You'll craft polished films with professional-grade music and effects, ensuring they stand out in a competitive media landscape. Your best work will be showcased at our film festivals. Many students have gone on to premiere their films at major high school festivals—including the world's largest! In addition, many of our students have gone onto some of the best film programs in the country. Let's tell bold stories and make unforgettable films!

Advanced Materials (H)

Prerequisite: Sculpture, 3D Design and Fabrication, or Glass, and permission from the instructor, [Trish Ludovici](#).

This is a self-driven, experimental material studies course, building upon the foundation laid in 3D Design and Fabrication, Sculpture, and Glass. Eligibility is dependent on previous enrollment in one of those courses and teacher permission is required. The focus of the class is to create the circumstances for students to think, research, and make choices as working designers, craftspeople, and artists. In the first semester, students will assemble in teams as

they develop collaborative projects that will foster communication and problem-solving skills while reintroducing them to hands-on building and tool-literacy. Experimentation is a critical part of the design process along with innovative thinking, so creative exploration with feedback will be a focus during the term. Students are expected to actively participate in the design process through sketching, researching, rapid visualization (prototyping), and creating models, culminating in a final portfolio. Students must conduct an in-depth, sustained investigation of materials, processes, concepts, and ideas in three dimensions. Coursework is completely self-driven and projects – including learning and research – are expected to be continued outside of class hours. Students shall develop and apply skills of inquiry and investigation, experimentation, revision, and reflection. At the end of the course, each student will have a portfolio that demonstrates their sustained investigation into materials and a greater understanding of the integral role of materials in design and physicality.

Advanced Music Ensemble (H)

Instructor permission is needed to register for this course. Auditions occur in the Spring and enrollment is set before the end of this school year. To schedule an audition, contact [Ken Berman](#).

Advanced Music Ensemble, also known as A-Train, is a yearlong class that provides students a chance to expand on their performance skills in a small to medium combo setting, as well as offering the opportunity to challenge their abilities by working with other students at an advanced level. Music theory is woven into the rehearsal process so that it is presented organically and immediately put into practice. The focus of A-Train is jazz and jazz-related music. All students will study the history of Jazz, and the uniquely American story it tells, covering the development of the music, and the ultimate power of music to cross the cultural lines that divide us and find ways to affirm our common humanity. Material will be chosen by the teacher and students, and will reflect a diversity of style, approach, and challenge level. Students will be involved with composing and arranging the songs. The groups will perform at the Fall and Spring Concerts, and numerous other venues throughout the year, as well as having the opportunity to organize a tour in the spring. Enrollment in the class is by permission of the instructor. All students are encouraged to study with a private teacher outside of school for at least five lessons per semester.

Advanced Photography (H)

Prerequisite: Photography and/or permission from the instructor, [Adam Thorman](#).

This course offers students a chance to delve more deeply into photography after their initial taste of the medium. Advanced Photography is about helping students develop their photographic voice. We will start with a few guided assignments to get them back up to fluency with the visual language and to loosen their shutter finger, before jumping into larger student-driven, individualized projects with regular work in progress critiques for the rest of the first semester. The second semester will be a chance to engage with the contemporary photography world and make art in dialogue with it. This class will allow those with an interest

in photography to go beyond the basics we covered in Photo I and II. We will be exploring experimental techniques as well as reviewing the basics of camera-usage and Photoshop to get them back up to speed. Discussions and readings will explore photography and art in general, giving depth and background to the work they'll be making. Many photographs will be taken.

Semester-Long Courses: Fall

All semester-long courses are UC approved unless otherwise noted.

Art, Consciousness, and AI - BlendEd

If interested in taking this course, please see the full description in the [BlendEd catalog](#).

Ceramics

This studio course is designed for students who have an interest in working with clay using both hand and wheel methods of construction. Students will gain experience making functional, sculptural, wearable, and decorative pieces. It will engage students in discussions of traditional and contemporary ceramics and sculpture, craftsmanship, creativity, and aesthetics. The course is designed to help students understand the functional and artistic uses of clay in various cultures and art movements, through the development of skills and the understanding of the stages of clay, basic construction techniques (hand building, coil, slab, pinch pots), casting and the potter's wheel. It will include an examination of glaze, decoration techniques (such as texture, relief, colored slips, underglaze, transfers, gold-leaf and gilding, etc.) and the firing process. Engagement and productivity in class will be of the highest importance since all practical work must be completed in the studio. Emphasis will be placed on craftsmanship, studio habits, and the completion and refinement of work. Students will learn through demonstrations, individual feedback, slide and video presentations, and class critiques. Final artworks will be exhibited in the Spring Festival of the Arts.

Concert Choir

Starting Fall 2025, this course will be UC-approved and count towards one semester of the Athenian Arts graduation requirement.

This class meets during the E period in order to prepare musical selections from a variety of styles (classical, gospel, R&B, Broadway, and pop) for the Fall and Spring Concerts, while simultaneously addressing essential choral concepts such as breathing technique, blend, tone, and healthy vocal production. Basic sight-singing and music theory are also covered. Opportunities for solos are available to students who are enrolled in the course. This choir class is open to all. **This class is a prerequisite for the Advanced Choir class.**

Dance Technique (PE Credit)

Experience the JOY of dance - bringing wellness, balance, and creative F.U.N. to your school day. F.U.N. dance styles that we explore as core movement styles in this course include: contemporary dance, jazz, and social dance styles. In this beginning to intermediate-advanced course, many different styles of movement are explored. Students have the opportunity to select the focus for some of our class sessions. Choices may include: Hip Hop, Swing, West African, Hula, K-pop, depending on what students are interested in exploring/learning. Also enjoy PLAYshops with guest artists/faculty as part of this class experience. Students will nurture and develop core elements and skills in the areas of dance technique, choreography, and performance technique. Peer to peer collaboration is emphasized, and student leadership is at the center of this course. *F.U.N. – fundamentals, understanding, nurturing.

This course meets Tuesdays & Thursdays during the PE period.

This is a P/F course and fulfills the requirements for PE credit.

This course fulfills the dance technique requirement for the Dance & Performance (UC&H) courses.

Digital Music Production and Marketing (BlendEd)

If interested in taking this course, please see the full description in the [BlendEd catalog](#).

Fall Play

This course is not UC-approved but does fulfill the Athenian Arts graduation requirement. Enrolled students receive 0.5 credits per semester and will receive a letter grade.

The Fall Play is by audition only.

Signing up for this course means that students are expressing interest, but it will not translate to a specific role. In the first week of class students will attend auditions and read sides with fellow actors and be cast in the play based on these auditions. As part of the fall play students will focus on table work, character building, and memorization of their lines and their blocking. Students are expected to be available after school on

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays as well as during elective on Wednesdays and Fridays. They will collaborate with the director and their fellow actors to put on a show which will be performed in November. Come join us to put on a wonderful production!



Fundamentals of Filmmaking - BlendEd

This semester-long course is offered in both the fall and spring.

If interested in taking this course, please see the full description in the [BlendEd catalog](#).

Graphic Design - BlendEd

If interested in taking this course, please see the full description in the [BlendEd catalog](#).

Theater Crew

This course is not UC-approved but fulfills the Athenian Arts graduation requirement. Enrolled students receive 0.5 credits per semester and get a letter grade.

This class is for students who would like to participate in creating our school theatre productions. You will get the opportunity to build and design our shows. You will get the chance to work in any of our excellent crews, including carpentry, paints, costumes, props, lights, sound, hair and makeup, and stage management. Through this, you will learn how to be brilliant collaborators and creators. Tech students are the engine that makes the magic of theatre happen. Join us to make our excellent productions happen!

Semester-Long Courses: Spring

Concert Choir

This course is UC approved and counts towards one semester credit towards the Athenian Arts graduation requirement.

This class meets during the E period in order to prepare musical selections from a variety of styles (classical, multicultural, Broadway, and pop) for the Fall and Spring Concerts, while simultaneously addressing essential choral concepts such as balance, blend, tone, and healthy vocal production. Basic sight-singing is also covered. Opportunities for solos are available to students who are enrolled in the course. Please note that there is a small sheet music fee for the course that will be charged to students' incidental accounts. This choir class is open to all, and students receive a letter grade. **This class is a prerequisite for the Advanced Choir class.**



Dance & Performance

When taken along with Dance Technique PE or Independent PE (Dance), students receive 0.5 Arts elective credit towards Athenian Graduation requirements. Instructor permission is needed to register for this course.

Learn to make original dances with other students and professional dance artists. Have a great time with other students making dances in the dance styles that you enjoy! To get the most out of this course you need to have an open mind, open heart, and have an interest in meaningful collaboration and artmaking. Our performance group is called the *PLACE* Collective. Students are invited to have an authentic artistic experience - cultivating individual expression and collaborative artmaking while developing as a dance artist. Choreographic collaboration between students and the artist mentor/faculty is emphasized. Students enjoy the accomplishment of performing original choreography that they help to create for the Spring concert. Other experiences in this course include field trip experiences to see dance concerts, exploring different dance styles in unique and *FUN PLAY* shops led by other students, as well as professional Bay Area choreographers.

This class meets 2 times a week: Wednesdays (Electives) & Fridays (Period E)

Students in the Dance & Performance course must also do one hour minimum of Dance Technique/PE per week or be enrolled in Ind. PE – Dance.

This course serves as a prerequisite for Adv. Dance & Performance.

Dance Technique (PE Credit)

Experience the JOY of dance - bringing wellness, balance, and creative F.U.N. to your school day. F.U.N. dance styles that we explore as core movement styles in this course include: contemporary dance, jazz, and social dance styles. In this beginning to intermediate-advanced course, many different styles of movement are explored. Students have the opportunity to select the focus for some of our class sessions. Choices may include: Hip Hop, Swing, West African, Hula, K-pop, depending on what students are interested in exploring/learning. Also enjoy *PLAY*shops with guest artists/faculty as part of this class experience. Students will nurture and develop core elements and skills in the areas of dance technique, choreography, and performance technique. Peer to peer collaboration is emphasized, and student leadership is at the center of this course. *F.U.N. – fundamentals, understanding, nurturing.

This course meets Tuesdays & Thursdays during the PE period.

This is a P/F course and fulfills the requirements for PE credit.

This course fulfills the dance technique requirement for the Dance & Performance (UC&H) courses.

Musical Dance (Q3 PE Credit only)

Enjoy all that is FABulous and stylish about Musical dance in this F.U.N. class experience! Explore the show-stopping choreo from Broadway and musicals on film. Learn the actual combos from musicals like West Side Story, Chicago, or In the Heights. Enjoy learning rhythm tap as part of this course – the iconic Shim Sham is a core combo, plus other F.U.N. tap combos and PLAYshops with guest faculty, too! *F.U.N. – fundamentals, understanding, nurturing.

This course meets Tuesdays & Thursdays during the PE period.

This is a P/F course and fulfills the requirements for PE credit.

This course aligns with Athenian's musical production requirement for Musical dance technique.

Fundamentals of Filmmaking - BlendEd

This semester-long course is offered in both the fall and spring.

If interested in taking this course, please see the full description in the [BlendEd catalog](#).

Hearing in Color: Music - BlendEd

Prerequisite: a keyboard instrument (a piano or digital keyboard with at least 4 octaves (49 keys)), at least one year of experience performing music, and the ability to read music in either treble or bass clef.

If interested in taking this course, please see the full description in the [BlendEd catalog](#).

Painting

The basic principles of painting technique will be introduced in this studio class. Through imagination and direct observation of still life, landscape and the figure, students will be introduced to the use of watercolor, acrylic and oil paint. Students will learn to mix color with attention to transparencies and opacities in the depiction of light and shadow. Varied approaches to the use of paint will be emphasized and students will gain an understanding of different painting mediums, masking fluids and their uses. Both representational and abstract painting will be explored through design, color and composition on paper, cardboard, stretched canvases and wood. Experimentation with materials will be encouraged and museum visits and in-class presentations will provide the opportunity to examine artists' uses and applications of various techniques.

Small Ensembles

This P/F course meets during the Elective block and gets .25 elective credit, and does not count towards the Athenian Arts graduation requirement.

Small Ensembles is a project-based music class for students interested in more individualized instruction. It involves work in smaller bands as opposed to the large E-Band or the A-Train combo. Previous students have performed in several different musical styles ranging from

jazz, funk, rock, R&B, and classical music. Students in this class are required to do more work on their own than in typical music classes. They need to be self-starters or have a previously well-established practice routine. This class can also be a good opportunity for students who wish to learn a second or third instrument, or perform as a soloist.

Spring Musical

This course is not UC-approved but does fulfill the Athenian Arts graduation requirement. Enrolled students receive 0.5 credits per semester and will receive a letter grade.

The Spring Musical is by audition only. Signing up for this course means that students are expressing interest, but it will not translate to a specific role. Students will audition at the end of the fall semester. Auditions usually require 16 bars of a song, but exact audition material will vary depending on the piece. As part of the spring musical students will focus on character building, learning music, learning choreography, as well as memorization of their lines and movement. Students are expected to be available after school on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays as well as during elective on Wednesdays and Fridays. They will also be required to enroll in Dance PE and be available Tuesday or Thursday after school as well. They will collaborate with the director, vocal director, choreographer, and their fellow actors to put on a show which will be performed in April. Come join us to put on a wonderful production!



Theater Crew

This course is not UC-approved but fulfills the Athenian Arts graduation requirement. Enrolled students receive 0.5 credits per semester and get a letter grade.

This class is for students who would like to participate in creating our school theatre productions. You will get the opportunity to build and design our shows. You will get the chance to work in any of our excellent crews, including carpentry, paints, costumes, props, lights, sound, hair and makeup, and stage management. Through this, you will learn how to be brilliant collaborators and creators. Tech students are the engine that makes the magic of theatre happen.

Join us to make our excellent productions happen!