Maine Arts Academy 2021-2022 Course Catalog

This is a catalog of the courses Maine Arts Academy will be offering for the 2021 - 2022 school year. This catalog is made available so that descriptions of the courses can be obtained.

Academic Classes

ENGLISH

English 1
This is a freshman English course that connects the 9th grade state standards of writing, grammar, reading, speaking, and listening through a variety of lessons. Students read recommended literature works, write short narrative, persuasive, and informational essays along with a literary analysis. Students read *1984* by George Orwell and view supplemental videos, articles, and lessons throughout the reading. We also do a public speaking speech unit to get students to step out of their comfort zone in a supportive and safe environment to become more confident and comfortable speaking in public.

English 2
*Prerequisite: English 1*
The study of English includes the study of literature, informational texts, language, communication, writing, and research. In this course the student will: study literature and informational texts; study grammar and learn its importance; learn to write appropriately, whether in a formal setting or informal setting; learn how to write a speech and deliver it with proper poise and confidence; and finally, learn how to research and gather data, so that he or she will be able to write a solid and intelligent research paper. This course is an extension of and will be building on the 9th grade English course. This course also provides PSAT prep that is built into the curriculum.

Honors English 2
*Prerequisite: English 1*
The study of English includes the study of literature, informational texts, language, communication, writing, and research. In this course the student will: study literature and informational texts; study grammar and learn its importance; learn to write appropriately, whether in a formal setting or informal setting; learn how to write a speech and deliver it with proper poise and confidence; and finally, learn how to research and gather data, so that he or she will be able to write a solid and intelligent research paper. Due to the nature of being an honors course, the student will be asked to take a more responsible role in his or her education; for example, the student will develop his or her own thesis statements for essays without having a guided list of prompts from which to choose.

English 3
*Prerequisite: English 2*
This course is a survey in American Literature, so the student will read selections from the birth of the United States to present day. It will continue to build on the foundation you built in the 9th and 10th grade English courses, so the student will continue to comprehend, evaluate and analyze
texts, correctly and appropriately write in formal and informal situations, and be able to vigorously and responsibly research and gather solid evidence to back up any thesis statement. This course also provides SAT prep that is built into the curriculum.

**English 4**  
*Prerequisite: English 3*  
This is a senior English course that connects the 12th grade state standards of writing, grammar, reading, speaking, and listening through a variety of lessons. Students read advanced books by Yuval Noah Harari, write short narrative, persuasive, and informational essays along with rich and intelligent discussions in class about the world they will soon inherit.

**Writing Lab**

**ENG 101 College Writing (through University of Maine at Augusta)**  
*Prerequisites: English 1 and 2. Students may take this course and ENG 102W in lieu of the English 3 requirement. Fall semester only.*  
This course is a collegiate introduction to composition. The students will learn about the process of writing and find their own. During the course, the students will write in various modes, including, but not limited to, narrative, expository, and persuasive. The course will prepare students, so they can: write clear, specific, and original thesis statements; organize essays in regard to audience and purpose; research appropriately and effectively; revise, edit, and proofread their work; engage in peer review; and fully understand all facets of MLA.

**ENG 102W Introduction to Literature (through University of Maine at Augusta)**  
*Prerequisite: ENG 101. Spring semester only.*  
This course is a collegiate introduction to English literature. The students will be studying various time periods of English literature and various genres (poetry, plays, short stories, essays, and novels). The objectives of this course are to build a comprehensive foundation of the understanding of English literature, to support and guide students in a deeper analysis of literature, to strengthen their understanding of literary research and MLA format, and to ensure their ability to write a well-supported and original final paper.

**Creative Writing**  
Creative Writing: Students will write various pieces and respond to thought-provoking prompts. Students will get lots of practice brainstorming, writing, and editing their own creative writing. A good class for any students who enjoy writing or want to improve their craft through practice and feedback.

**MATHEMATICS**

**Pre-Algebra**  
This Pre-Algebra course is an introduction to basic algebra concepts and a review of arithmetic algorithms. The course emphasizes the concepts necessary to be successful in Algebra I and Geometry. The course helps students develop good mathematical study skills and learning strategies. Students will explore algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities involving
integers, decimals, exponents, fractions, and polynomials. Students will encounter ratios, proportions, percents, linear functions, and graphing techniques and will think spatially regarding area and volume, analytic geometry, data analysis, and probability.

**Algebra 1**
This is a first year algebra course in which students will learn to reason symbolically. Key content involves writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations, including systems of two linear equations in two unknowns. Emphasis is placed on factoring polynomial cubic, quadratic, and linear expressions. Quadratic equations are solved by factoring or by application of the quadratic formula. The course also includes the study of monomial and polynomial expressions, inequalities, exponents, functions, rational expressions, ratios, and proportions. Algebraic skills are applied in a wide variety of problem-solving situations.

**Algebra 2**
*Prerequisite: Algebra 1*
This is a second-year algebra course in which students will extend learning from Algebra I. This course introduces students to key concepts and theories which provide a foundation for further study in mathematics and increase students’ mathematical literacy, problem solving, and critical thinking skills. The key content involves the following: writing, solving, and graphing linear equations, inequalities and systems, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic and rational functions, equations, and expressions. Quadratic equations are solved by factoring, completing the square, graphically, or by application of the quadratic formula integrating both real and complex solutions. Mathematical reasoning, analysis, and communication skills are applied in a wide variety of problem-solving situations.

**Geometry**
*Prerequisite: Algebra 1*
This course assumes that the student has demonstrated a solid foundation in algebra. Topics include the relationships between points, lines, and planes; the axiomatic system, logical thinking and proof writing; and measurement, including area and volume; congruency and similarity; two and three-dimensional geometric figures; parallel and perpendicular lines; and the coordinate plane. Reinforcement of algebraic problem solving methods are presented continually throughout this course within the context of geometric theorems, postulates, and concepts. Mathematical reasoning, analysis, and communication skills are applied in a wide variety of problem-solving situations.

**Honors Pre-Calculus**
*Prerequisite: Algebra 2*
This course is designed to cover topics extending beyond Algebra II ranging from polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions to conic sections. Students will compose functions and graph complex numbers. Students will develop unit circle definitions of trigonometric functions, graph sine, cosine, and tangent functions; solve trigonometric identities and equations; and work with the Laws of Sines and Cosines. This is a rigorous math course for those on a college track.
Honors Calculus

Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus
An introductory college-level calculus course. The areas of study include graph analysis, limits of functions, continuity of functions, derivatives at a point as well as a function integration, and techniques of anti-differentiation.

SOCIAL STUDIES

United States History
This one year course will examine the history of the United States of America. The course will make connections to overall themes in history such as immigration, race relations, national values, religion, etc. We will take a critical look at the story of American history from the good, the bad, and the downright ugly. We will start with the British colonies in North America and then examine and study the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the modern era. Students will be expected to think critically about decisions and events in our history that have molded our country to the present day. We will also be making connections to civics via the study of our foundational documents and precedents set by some of our most successful presidents.

Honors United States History
This one year course will examine the history of the United States of America. The course will make connections to overall themes in history such as immigration, race relations, national values, religion, etc. We will take a critical look at the story of American history from the good, the bad, and the downright ugly. We will start with the British colonies in North America, the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the modern era. Students will be expected to think critically about decisions and events in our history that have molded our country to the present day. We will also be making connections to civics via the study of our foundational documents and precedents set by some of our most successful presidents.

Honors Current Events
Current Events is a year-long class where we discuss issues in the news and topics that matter in the world. We cover topics ranging from local to global events, economic issues to social issues, the environment, and electoral politics (and much, much more). This class involves lots of class discussion so those who enjoy participating are more than welcome! We’ll also complete semi-regular projects — from posters to essays to student polls to presentations.

Latin American History
Latin America History and Politics is a year-long survey into the more modern histories of a number of Latin American countries. This includes (but is not limited to) Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Mexico, Colombia, Cuba, and Jamaica. We will also discuss the United States’ role and relationship(s) with these countries and touch on current issues like foreign policy, social justice, and immigration. We’ll delve into Latin American art, literature, and film frequently throughout the year to contextualize what we’ve learned. It’s an honors class as the material is quite advanced but the workload is manageable.
**History Through Literature**

*Social Studies and English credit*

This course explores how significant artists have written about the past and the future. We will read several of Shakespeare’s history plays; specimens from the genre of historical fiction; and key works from science fiction. Conducted as a seminar.

**Philosophy**

An introduction to some of the major philosophers of the western tradition, and to some of the key questions that have been asked: what is philosophy, and how can it be distinguished from sophistry? What is consciousness? Is free will an illusion? Are we living in a simulation? Can machines think? What is justice? What are the necessary and sufficient criteria for defining sameness of personal identity over time? What constitutes a good life? What is justice? What kind of meaning can be ascribed to our existence? What is a what is question? How do we gain knowledge about the world? And what are the limits of our knowledge?

These last two questions, in particular, will be emphasized by way of contrasting philosophers such as Plato and Descartes, both of whom take geometry as a paradigm of knowledge and as evidence for a conceptual realm independent of the senses, with empiricists such as Locke and Hume, for whom the senses are the ultimate source of all concepts and knowledge.

Socrates claimed that the unexamined life is not worth living. In this course, we will try to ask the fundamental questions that those who have lived examined lives, the philosophers, have asked, and in so doing pause to examine our own.

**SCIENCE**

**Natural Science**

This course combines half a year of biology and half a year of physical science to introduce students to a broad range of topics. Some students may choose to take the CLEP exam for University of Maine college credit, but it is not required for this course. Biology is the study of life. Students will use critical thinking in group discussions, prepare laboratory investigations, and present independent projects while exploring molecular biology, genetic variation, and biodiversity through evolution. Physical Science is the study of all inorganic in the universe, bringing students through the fundamentals of Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, and Earth Science. The class also incorporates topics concerning the physical processes on earth and then applies those same processes to the forces and objects in space. Students will use critical thinking in group discussions and present independent projects.

**Honors Natural Science**

This course combines half a year of biology and half a year of physical science to prepare students to take and pass the CLEP exam for University of Maine college credit. The college level natural sciences course is a year-long survey course for non-science majors so the course material, while extensive, is not as arduous as the courses for college science majors. Biology is the study of life. Students will use critical thinking in group discussions, prepare laboratory investigations, and present independent projects while exploring molecular biology, genetic variation, and biodiversity through evolution. Physical Science is the study of all inorganic in the universe, bringing students through the fundamentals of Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, and
Earth Science. The class also incorporates topics concerning the physical processes on earth and then applies those same processes to the forces and objects in space. Students will use critical thinking in group discussions and present independent projects.

**Lab Biology**
Biology is the study of life. It includes an introduction to the scientific method, cytology, genetics, botany, zoology, ecology, taxonomy, evolution, biochemistry, and microbiology. Lab work includes biological and physical adaptation of human and animal anatomy and physiology (with attention to dance and movement). Students will use critical thinking in group discussions and present independent projects. Course work, lab work, and examinations will prepare students for future science courses.

**Lab Chemistry**
Chemistry is the study of matter from its tiniest origins to the structure of our bodies and on to even the great bodies in the heavens. We will examine the structure of matter from the atomic level with its chemical bonding to the conservation of matter through balanced stoichiometry, then to the states of matter, and finally move into the biochemistry of hydrocarbons and macromolecules. As we travel through the creation of modern chemistry, we will ground ourselves in the historical story of the scientific method, comparing and contrasting it with alchemy (and the use of chemistry in the arts and theater) and then questioning if we truly understand the fundamental building blocks of matter even as we manipulate them so easily. Students will engage in critical analysis and class discussions of our use of chemicals in daily life as well as completing independent projects. Course work, lab work, and examinations will prepare students for future science courses.

**Neurobiology**
This course is an advanced psychology course to prepare students to take and pass the CLEP exam for University of Maine college credit. It covers material usually taught in a one-semester undergraduate introductory course in psychology. The course stresses basic facts, concepts, and generally accepted principles in psychological history; approaches and methods of psychology; biological bases of behavior, sensation, and perception; states of consciousness; learning; cognition; motivation and emotion; personality; psychological disorders and treatment; social psychology; and statistics, tests, and measurements. Students will use critical thinking in group discussions and present independent projects.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**French 1-4 and Spanish 1-4:**
Each French or Spanish course is a year-long, one-credit course comprised of five Anchor Standards (AS):

- Interpretive Listening
- Interpretive Reading
- Presentational Speaking
- Presentational Writing
- Interpersonal Communication
Within each Anchor Standard, students progress through Learning Targets (LT), or Steps, of gradually increasing language complexity. Students move on to more challenging material as they acquire more language. At all levels, students are developing strategies to derive meaning from level-appropriate spoken and written material, as well as to convey a level-appropriate comprehensible message in speech and writing. Classes are conducted primarily in the target language using an approach called Teaching with Comprehensible Input (TCI). The language is presented in meaningful contexts in a way that students can understand, using limited amounts of new vocabulary and lots of repetition to encourage acquisition. English is used for clarification, as needed.

With students giving input and direction to the discourse, the topics covered relate to real life and students’ interests. Whenever possible, the arts are specifically connected to the instruction, often with cultural connections to the countries where the target language is spoken.

**Art Classes**

**THEATER**

**Introduction to Acting**  
*Level I*  
Students will learn the essentials of honest storytelling through techniques from the Stanislavski Acting System. Students will learn to analyze scripts, research, and develop characters while working on a variety of classic texts. Acting techniques will be demonstrated through scene work. This course will also offer an introduction to voice and speech for the actor.

**Honors Playwriting**  
*Level II*  
Students will work on writing original plays. Playwriting skills will be developed by reading and analyzing different genres of plays, as well as through experimentation with dramatic structure and character development. Class exercises will include brainstorming methods, journaling, and playwriting prompts. Student work will be read out aloud for the class for feedback and development.

**Honors Advanced Theater Leadership**  
*Level II*  
In this class, advanced theater students are asked to take a leadership role in the MEAA theater program by exploring different theater positions such as: directing, stage management, house management, and tech support. Each student creates and develops an independent leadership plan, according to personal interests, which will make a difference and move the MEAA theater program forward.

**One Acts**  
*Level II*  
*Audition Only*  
Auditions for interested students will be held in the first week of the fall semester. The class will develop, rehearse, and produce student written plays for a One Acts Evening in January and a...
10-Minute Play Festival in April. This course is for students interested in acting, directing, playwriting, developing original theater, and design. Students must be taking a Theater Skills class (Acting, Directing, or Playwriting) to be eligible for this course.

**From Book to Stage**  
*Level II*  
**Prerequisite: Introduction to Acting**  
Students explore the production elements present in theater by creating in-class theater companies and developing production concepts for several theoretical projects. Working within theater companies, students explore the jobs of theater producers, directors, set designers, costume designers, dramaturgs, playwrights, and their role in bringing a text to life as a theater production. Students will explore the creative and artistic process by working to research and analyze text and turning original ideas into visual elements.

**Intermediate Acting**  
*Level II*  
**Prerequisite: Introduction to Acting**  
Students will continue exploration into the essentials of honest storytelling through techniques from the Stanislavski Acting System. Students will apply knowledge and skills to analyze scripts, research, and develop characters while working on a variety of classic texts. Acting techniques will be demonstrated through scene work. This course will also offer an introduction to voice and speech for the actor.

**Honors Advanced Acting**  
*Level III*  
**Prerequisite: Intermediate Acting**  
Students delve deeper into the Stanislavski Acting System by analysing texts and creating characters different from themselves. The emphasis this year is on building characters. Students will explore Jerzy Grotowsky’s physical training system and ensemble work, Strasberg and The Group Theater, and Michael Chekhov’s psychological gesture.

**Honors Directing**  
*Level III*  
**Prerequisite: Honors Advanced Theater Leadership and From Book to Stage**  
Students learn the basics of directing for the theater: analyzing scripts, collaborating with actors and designers, visual composition, and staging for various theater spaces. This course will culminate with a showcase of student directed work.

**FILM**

**Honors Introduction to Film Studies**  
*Available to grades 10, 11, and 12*  
This course will help students understand the production of film and introduce them to it in a way that will teach them how to study and analyze it as they would any piece of literature. We will examine, study, and analyze mise-en-scène, editing, sound, the narrative structure in film,
and the history of film from the birth of cinema to the present day. By the end of this course, the students will have an extremely strong foundation in the study of film and the understanding of filmmaking techniques and cinematic language.

**Honors Film Genre and Theory**  
*Prerequisite: Honors Introduction to Film Studies*  
This course builds on Introduction to Film Studies and will push the students to dive even deeper into the study of film. Many aspects and knowledge taken from the prerequisite course will be utilized to help the students analyze film while looking at film genre and film theory. In this course, the students are expected to decipher how genre affects the viewing of a film and in what way it fits into the study of film (genres studied: documentary, the western, drama, horror, science fiction, comedy, fantasy, film noir, and cult). Furthermore, the students will examine, comprehend, analyze, and evaluate several film theories (Marxist, feminist, reception, and auteur) and apply it to the study of film. By the end of the course, students should have an even stronger foundation of film studies, in which they can dissect films in a much greater capacity.

**CREATIVE MEDIA**

**Foundations of Art**  
This course is open to all students, and no prior art experience is necessary. The focus of the course will be the elements and principles of art, art history and communication through art. Students will explore the basic elements of art: line, shape, value, space, color, form and texture and be able to apply the fundamental principles of design in their artwork. Students will create a variety of projects while exploring the use of various art media. Students are encouraged to explore personal style and creativity. Creative problem solving and the creative process will be highlighted.

**Photography 1**  
This course is open to all students and no prior photography experience is necessary. Students will learn the fundamentals of photography using their cell phone and DSLR camera. The focus of this course will be the history of photography, basic composition, and storytelling. Student photographs will be posted to their individual .edublogs where they will showcase their skills.

**Photography 2**  
*Prerequisite: Photography 1*  
This course is an advanced photography course where students will learn basic editing skills using photo editing software. The focus of this course will be lighting, editing, and camera control. Students will learn how to photograph using only Manual mode on a DSLR camera. Photographs will be posted to individual student blogs where they will showcase their skills.

**Business for Professional Artist**  
*Prerequisite: Foundations of Art and two other creative media courses*  
This is an upperclassmen Creative Media course. This is an art school and the last thing we are going to produce is starving artists! In this course, students will create their very own art business and learn about the fundamentals of entrepreneurship. Throughout the school year the students will manage the MeAA student led art store where people can purchase student
artwork.

**Studio Art**

**Introduction to Graphic Design**

**Illustrations**

**DANCE**

**Beginning Musical Theater Dance**
Appropriate for the beginner dancer. This class will focus on learning proper dance technique while exploring the various dance styles used in Broadway shows. Class curriculum is based on ballet technique layered with Broadway style jazz movements from greats such as Bob Fosse, Jack Cole, and Jerome Robbins, to name a few. Students will learn about how auditions are executed and what to expect. Class includes a proper warm up, stretches, isolations, across-the-floor progressions, and combinations. Emphasis will also be placed on learning performance skills such as connecting with the audience and telling a story through dance and facial expressions. Hair must be pulled back. Dance clothes such as tanks, leotards, tights, leggings, etc. are appropriate for the class.

**Beginning Sample Dance**
This class is a great way to sample many genres of dance all in one semester and learn the very basics of each. This class will cover ballroom dancing (waltz, tango, foxtrot, swing, cha-cha, rumba, mambo, and salsa), ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, and contemporary. This class is appropriate for the non dancer or beginner dancer to try out all styles and get a sampling to better understand their interests and what they may or may not choose to pursue in later semesters. There will be an expectation for students to perform as a class in one of our bi-monthly recitals to showcase what they have learned. Bringing a change of clothes, shoes, socks, etc. is necessary to participate in this class. Appropriate attire would be similar to workout clothes or physical education class attire. Tap shoes are not required for this level. If students have them, they are welcome to bring them to class.

**Beginner Ballet**
Ballet 1 will focus on the basics of ballet. This is appropriate for the beginner dancer and beyond as brushing up on basics is always important, regardless of level. Students will learn classical ballet techniques and terminology. Each class includes barre exercises, center floor work, and across-the-floor combinations. The ballet curriculum is based on a combination of the French, Vaganova, and Cecchetti methods. As students progress through the levels, curriculum will become increasingly more complex and intricate. This class benefits students who come from diversified dance backgrounds. Appropriate attire for this level would include: leotards, tights, skirts, leggings, etc. Ballet Shoes are also required.

**Hip Hop 2**
*Intermediate- Advanced*
Appropriate for advanced dancers, this class consists of breaking down the elements of hip-hop within choreography. The styles incorporated are popping, locking, waving, breaking, and
gliding. The class starts off with a guided warm up by stretching out the body and using isolations—sometimes warm-up exercises are used in the combinations. Bringing a change of clothes, shoes, socks, etc. is required to participate in this class.

**Advanced Dance**

*Audition only*

This class is designed specifically for juniors and seniors who are advanced dance students, and it is geared toward college dance prep, audition prep, and exploring choreography on peers. This class is a great way to study many genres of dance all in one semester and cover the techniques of each. This class will cover ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, contemporary, improvisation, and choreography. This class is appropriate for dancers who have had many years of dance experience and whose abilities are fitting for this level of technique in all genres. Compiling all styles into one class will allow us to cover many dance styles throughout the semester. It is designed so that every 4-6 weeks we will focus on a different genre, learning progressions and choreography in each. The following semester will provide more opportunities to hone in on individual genres in your level. There will be an expectation for students to perform as a class in at least one of our bi-monthly recitals to showcase what they have learned. Bringing a change of clothes, shoes, socks, etc. is required to participate in this class. Appropriate attire for this level would include: leotards, tights, leggings, shoes in all genres (tap, ballet, and jazz), etc.

**MUSIC**

**Beginning Guitar**

This is an introductory look at the fundamentals of playing the guitar. This course includes basic right and left hand technique, note reading and scales, open position chords, and a repertoire of songs and exercises designed for the beginning guitarist.

**Intermediate Guitar**

*Audition or Beginning Guitar required*

*Prerequisite: Music Theory and Ear Training*

This course takes a beginner guitarist to the next stage of development. If you can blaze through all of the fundamental open position chords, and if you have a basic understanding of music and note reading, then this course would be a good fit. This class will mainly work on utilizing barre chords and other moveable chord or scale shapes to start to unlock the mystery of the fretboard. This is a performance based class. This is an audition only class. Music Theory and Ear Training is a must.

**Advanced Guitar**

*Audition or Intermediate Guitar required*

*Prerequisite: Musics Theory and Ear Training*

This course is an in depth study at the complexities of the guitar within various pieces of music. With a focus on Jazz harmony, rhythm, and improvisation, this course will cover materials such as 7th chords, modes, and syncopation. This is a performance based class that often meets with the advanced percussion for a well rounded ensemble. This is an audition only class. Music Theory and Ear Training is a must.
Beginning Piano
This course teaches piano performance and music reading from the very beginning and is intended for students with no musical experience. Students learn basic finger patterns along with the elements of musical notation, working through a method book to develop facility, and skill at the keyboard. Students will leave the course able to read music in treble and bass clefs and play major scales and rudimentary songs with both hands.

Intermediate Piano
Audition or Beginning Piano required
Intended for students who have already mastered music reading and the basics of piano playing, this class is individualized to meet students at their ability level with individual lesson plans designed to move students ahead in piano literature and technique. Students should be able to play pieces from the Anna Magdalena Bach notebook or pieces of similar (or greater) difficulty to be eligible for this class. Each student will receive assignments in piano technique, piano etudes beginning with Hanon, and piano literature from all the major style periods.

Advanced Piano
Audition or Intermediate Piano required
Students should be able to play Bach Inventions, Clementi Sonatinas, or pieces of similar (or greater) difficulty to be eligible for this class. Advanced Piano class offers individualized instruction in piano technique and performance; assignments include all major and minor scales forms, five forms of arpeggios, etudes beginning with Czerny, and advanced piano literature from all the major style periods.

Rhythm and Percussion Lab 1
This is an intro and beginner-level course (no experience required) for drummers, mallet percussionists, vocalists and all other instrumentalists. Rhythm does not only pertain to the drummer! It is important that every musician has a strong sense of rhythm. Students in this class will be expected to develop the following skills:

- become comfortable with whole note, half note, quarter note, eighth note, triplet, and sixteenth note rhythms
- learn to read, hear and play simple rhythms and or melodies
- begin to dictate simple rhythm and melody

Rhythm and Percussion Lab 2
Audition or Rhythm and Percussion Lab I required
This intermediate/advanced-level class is for drummers, mallet percussionists, vocalist and all other instrumentalists. Rhythm does not only pertain to percussionists! This course requires a basic knowledge of reading rhythms and pitches as well as show an interest in advancing their musical skills. Students in this class will be expected to develop the following skills:

- practice and learn the 25 American drum rudiments, and all 12 major scales
- develops 4 way coordination on the drum set
- learn to read and hear more complex rhythms and melodies
- practice and learn syncopated, African, American, and Latin rhythms (Claves, Polyrhythms)
Instrumental Music
This course is open to intermediate or advanced wind and percussion players who can read music and know the fingerings and embouchure for their particular instrument. This is not a class for beginning instrumentalists, as there are numerous performance responsibilities scheduled throughout the year, including public concerts, exchange concerts, and festival trips, at which attendance is required. Members are also eligible to audition for regional and state honors music festivals including Allstate, Jazz Allstate, and The Kennebec Valley festival.

Jazz Ensemble
Intermediate - Advanced
Audition only
This class is open to all instrumentalists and vocalists. We will be learning about the great tradition of this American Classical music called jazz and blues. The music of Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, and Thelonious Monk, among others, will be rehearsed and performed. One must have some basic reading and ear-training skills for this class, as well as an understanding of the Ionian, Mixolydian, and Dorian modes.

Electronic Music Ensemble
Audition only
Electronic music comes in all sounds, colors, and textures. This electronic music ensemble deals with composition and improvisation utilizing both acoustic and electric instruments. One must demonstrate strong music theory skills for this class.

General Chorus
All students are welcome to explore choral music in an ensemble of mixed voices! This group will look at a variety of works, as well as sight reading and aural skills.

Chambers Singers
Audition only
An auditioned group for mixed voice parts. Students will be dedicated to learn more advanced choral works in a smaller setting. This group will look at a variety of works, as well as sight reading and aural skills.

Music Theory and Ear Training
Beginner
This is an introductory class that develops musicians reading and writing, as well as harmonic, melodic, and rhythmic sensibilities. This class will cover the following, but not limited to: learning to read and write, twelve major and minor scales, rhythmic dictation, melodic dictation, harmonic dictation, intervals, chords, transcription, and more…

Musical Theater Techniques
A look into Musical Theater and proper techniques which involve singing, acting, and dance. Learning these techniques and translating them to the stage!

Vocal Anatomy
A class to discuss the voice. What is the voice, its muscles, and techniques to prevent vocal damage and improve breathing and singing technique.

**Music in Media**
A Deep dive analysis of music in television, movies, video games and beyond. In this class we will discuss music and its impact in media and arts from its beginnings, all the way up to the 21st century. This includes a critique of its benefit and structure in multiple works.

**Solo Sections**