

# Elective Choices for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Full Year Daily – 1 Credit Courses

- Studio Art and Design \*
- Music History and Theory \*
- Additional World Language
- Business Dynamics
- Design and Draw for Production \*
- Chorale \*
- Concert Band \*
- Symphonic Orchestra \*
- Study Hall (No Credit)

\* Classes that fulfill the 1 Credit Art/Music Requirement

## ½ Credit Courses

### Every other day all year

- Introduction to Theatre\* (1/2 credit)
- Contemporary Global Issues
- Study Hall (No Credit)

### Every day half year

- Computer Science 1
- Computer Science 2
- Photography and Filmmaking 1
- Photography and Filmmaking 2
- Study Hall (No Credit)

### **Studio Art and Design (9-12) 1 yr 1 cr**

This is an introductory full year course for students who want experience with a variety of visual art projects and materials. Students will experiment and problem-solve through hands-on choice-based projects. Topics include design, sculpture, collage, painting and drawing techniques, and an introduction to digital media, including animation, and photography. Students learn new ways to understand and use visual language to communicate with others and express ideas. This course introduces students to a wide range of approaches to art making that are offered for further study in the Art Department. **This course fulfills the fine arts credit requirement for graduation.**

### **Music History and Theory (9-12) 1 yr 1cr**

This course, held in the Mac music lab, trains students in reading, writing, and understanding music in a hands-on learning environment. In addition to learning basic music theory, within a historical context, the course progresses to include complex and creative tasks such as melodic and harmonic dictation, composition and arranging, as well as analysis and discussion of musical styles. Learning is focused around the use of technology where students will gain experience using software programs such as *Finale*, *Garage Band*, *Logic*, *Ableton Live*, and *FL Studio*. This course will help students express their creativity through independent and collaborative work throughout the year. **This course is a prerequisite for students wishing to enroll in Music Technology and AP Music Theory.**

### **Business Dynamics (9-12) 1 yr 1 cr**

Business Dynamics is an introductory course which explores the topics of advertising, consumer purchasing, and entrepreneurship. Students will also learn financial management skills with topics that include budgeting, credit cards, and investing. Real life case studies will focus on famous entrepreneurs and incorporate aspects of sports, entertainment, and fashion industries.

### **Design and Drawing for Production (9-12) 1 yr 1 cr**

Design and Drawing for Production encourages visual problem solving using a common graphic language to describe forms in the man-made environment. This course teaches students how to analyze, creatively design, and critically evaluate these forms. Students will be given different design problems whereby they will present a solution through design, drawing and modeling exercises. Students will learn different design and drawing methods that are implemented for worldwide industrial communication and how it is an integral step in the process toward product design and production. Students will learn how to draw using drafting tools as well as computer aided design (CAD) and modeling software. Model building will also be explored to help students develop an ability to analyze and demonstrate an understanding of three-dimensional forms in space. **This full year course can be used to fulfill the fine arts credit requirement for graduation.**

### **Chorale (9-12) 1 yr 1 cr**

The John Jay Chorale is the select choral performance ensemble of the school. This group comprised of students who audition for the ensemble every spring for the following year. The repertoire is made up of level 4 through level 6 music focusing on a broad repertoire from the 15th century through the present day. Students are expected to perform in a variety of languages and there are several performances in the school and community. *Group lessons are part of the curriculum and meet on a rotating basis throughout the year.* Audition required prior to registering for this course.

### **Concert Band (9) 1 yr 1 cr**

This group will be comprised of all incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and is the primary band ensemble in the high school. This course will introduce students to the band program and focus on developing individual skills and ensemble techniques through rehearsal with consistent feedback. This group performs a minimum of twice annually. *Group lessons are part of the curriculum and meet on a rotating basis throughout the year.*

**Symphonic Orchestra (9-12)**                      1 yr   1 cr  
(Brass, wind & percussion students accepted to the orchestra - ½ cr full yr alt days with permission of the orchestra director) The John Jay Symphony Orchestra is a full symphonic ensemble offered to high school students grades 9-12. Repertoire includes works of the great masters in both original and transcribed arrangements. Group lessons are part of the curriculum and meet throughout the year on a rotating basis. This ensemble performs at two concerts per year, as well as at other optional performance opportunities throughout the school year.

**Introduction to Theatre 1 (9-12)**      1 yr   ½ cr  
(Meets Every Other Day)  
Introduction to Theater 1 is the introductory course for students interested in studying Theater at John Jay High School, or who want a basic introduction to Theater. Intro 1 is a hands-on course that starts with a focus at first on theater games, ensemble building, improvisation, and character development, then moves onto the essentials of working with text, including the basics of textual analysis and acting. Introduction to Theater I is a prerequisite for Intro 2. Completing both Introduction to Theater 1 and 2 fulfills the fine arts credit requirement for graduation.

**Contemporary Global Issues**                      1 yr   ½ cr  
(Meets Every Other Day)  
Students will learn, research, discuss, and write about current issues facing the world today. Students will make connections between topics presented in their Global Studies course and current events that reflect the long-term developments of those topics. Students will be required to complete research, engage in classroom discussions, deliver and organize presentations and complete writing assignments related to course material. Possible course topics include cultural diffusion and globalization, the impact of geography on culture and democratic movements and reforms throughout the world

**Computer Science 1 (9-12)**                      ½ yr   ½ cr  
This course gives students an introduction to computer programming. Students will explore computer science concepts using a visual 3-D programming environment called Alice. Students will learn fundamental programming concepts in the context of creating animated movies and interactive games. Computer Science 1 is designed as an exploratory course for students interested in computer science, math or engineering careers.

**Computer Science 2 (9-12)**                      ½ yr   ½ cr  
This course introduces students to the Java programming language. Students will learn the basics of Java through NetBeans and Greenfoot. Java graphical interfaces will be explored to create different interactive games and to enhance programs created in Alice. Computer Science 2 is designed as an intermediate course in programming for those interested in computer science, math or engineering careers. **Prerequisite: Computer Science 1**

**Photography and Filmmaking 1 (9-12)**      ½ yr   ½ cr  
In our world of smart phones and social media, technology and imaging play important roles in our daily lives. In this class students will explore the medium of their choosing, including 35mm film and darkroom photography, digital photography, filmmaking and animation. They will learn to express themselves creatively using Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom, Adobe Premiere Pro and Animate and develop skills that can be applied to a wide range of professional fields. Open to all levels of experience.

**Photography and Filmmaking 2 (9-12)**      ½ yr   ½ cr  
Students further develop their skills in the medium of their choosing, including 35mm film and darkroom photography, digital photography, filmmaking and animation. Emphasis is placed on creativity and self-expression through personal projects. Students create individual websites and may choose to develop portfolios.