The art curriculum at St. George’s is designed to meet each student’s desire to pursue various levels and forms of creativity. For the most advanced art students, our studios, housed in the Drury/Grosvenor Center for the Arts, are a home away from home when a creative binge strikes. For more beginning art students, a foundation course may turn into a new passion—or simply set the tone for a more enlightened way of visiting a great museum. On whichever end of the spectrum they fall, our students find an art curriculum tailored to their desired goals and interests. The Visual Foundation course, a prerequisite for further study, emphasizes problem solving, aesthetic analysis and visual selectivity. Intermediate and advanced course electives include drawing, ceramics, architecture, video art, photography, printmaking, welding, sculpture and three-dimensional design. Advanced Studio Art Portfolio courses are designed to promote the development of a cohesive body of work in accordance with the structure of the guidelines for college admissions. Expectations for these courses are rigorous and the technical skills that student artists acquire during this year of practice can often be remarkable.

**Visual Foundation: Art 201, 202, 203**  *(Prerequisite for all other art courses)*

*Open to all forms each trimester*

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be able to draw the things that you see? This course will help you to discover talents you never knew you possessed. Visual Foundation, a prerequisite for all other studio-based art courses, introduces students to the fundamental concepts of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. Students develop a comprehensive visual vocabulary as they actively confront visual issues and problems in the studio. The course emphasizes the importance of drawing as a primary tool for the development of visual ideas. Media such as pencil, charcoal, and ink help students investigate various solutions to visual projects as they build technical skills. A broad range of formal concerns is presented through a series of sequential two-dimensional exercises. Exercises in the use of line, perspective and value will be explored in a sequence that builds in complexity as the semester progresses. Students will observe the work of professional artists for inspiration and learn to evaluate their own solutions and those of their peers through regular group discussion. Offered fall (201), winter (202) and spring (203).

**Principles of Engineering: Art 301-2**  *(Also offered as Engineering 301-2)*

*Open to fourth-, fifth- and sixth-formers*

*Fall: Materials  Winter: Energy & Power*

This two-trimester course is a survey course of engineering. The course exposes students to some of the major concepts that they will encounter in a postsecondary engineering course of study including materials, proposal writing, research and fabrication. Students will have the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of concepts through problem-based learning. Used in combination with a team approach, this course challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities and problem-solving skills by using engineering concepts. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education.

Students will employ engineering and scientific concepts in the solution of engineering design problems. Students will develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges. Students will also learn how to document their work and communicate their solutions to their peers and faculty members.
Fine Art Photography: Art 311, Art 313

Open to all forms; Prerequisite Visual Foundation

Anyone can take a photograph. You may have already taken hundreds of photographs during your lifetime. But what makes a photographic image truly captivating? Astonishing? Evocative? Memorable? It takes far more than pointing and shooting a camera. We engage in an ongoing discussion of the breadth of possibilities in the visual art of photography as students become comfortable using their cameras and the most current photographic software. This trimester-long course explores the techniques and applications of acquiring, manipulating and outputting digitized photographic images utilizing Adobe Photoshop. The technical skills for digital photography are covered including refinement of exposure, post-image capture processing and print manipulation. Assignments range from specific exercises with depth of field, portraiture, landscape and abstraction. Students are expected to engage fully in critiques and classroom discussions. Students must provide their own DSLR camera and tripod. Offered fall (311) and spring (313).

Journalistic Photography: Art 322, Art 323

Open to all forms; Prerequisite Visual Foundation

This course will explore the way images are used in contemporary art, media, and culture. Students will be introduced to the key issues surrounding photography now, led through these questions by lectures, readings, group discussion and project-based work. This trimester-long course explores the techniques and applications of acquiring, manipulating and outputting digitized photographic images utilizing Adobe Photoshop. A series of photo assignments challenge the students to integrate critical thought, exploring a range of formal strategies and thematic frameworks that affect the meaning of their images. Students should have a strong interest in the history, influence, and technical aspects of photography. They should be motivated to work independently and experiment creatively. Students must provide their own DSLR camera and tripod. Offered winter (322) and spring (323).

3D Design: Art 331C, Art 331M, Art 332W, Art 333M, Art 333W

Open to all forms each trimester; Prerequisite Visual Foundation

Learn how to weld, make pottery, shape wood and protect an egg from a 150-foot fall—all in the series of three, single trimester courses. 3D: Clay, 3D: Wood, and 3D: Metal, focus on specific materials and the use of both additive and subtractive methods of construction. Three-Dimensional Design, a studio art elective, offers students an opportunity to explore a wide range of three-dimensional form with emphasis on formal vocabulary and the development of an idea. Design problems evolve through the three phases of the creative process: discussion of criteria and development of preliminary ideas, translation of ideas into two-dimensional drawings and execution of plans into three-dimensional objects. Students learn to balance practical issues of function with the formal issues relating to aesthetics. Hand-building ceramic techniques are used in the production of functional ceramics. Students continue to use clay as a medium as they experiment by making scale models for projects, which will be made by using a variety of materials and methods. Formal exercises in wood, paper and welded steel emphasize the structural capabilities of line, plane and volume. Students learn to operate hand and power tools safely in the three-dimensional design studio. The text employed is Block and Leisure’s Understanding Three Dimension. Offered fall (331C Clay or 331M Metals) winter (332W Wood) and spring (333M Metals or 333W Wood). On the Course Planning Worksheet, please note which materials are offered in which trimesters, and specify a preference, using Alternate to name a second choice.
**2D Printmaking: Art 342, Art 343**

*Open to all forms; Prerequisite Visual Foundation*

In this course, students investigate several methods of print production, print vocabulary and a brief history of printmaking. Through research, exploration and experimentation, images are developed utilizing multiple techniques, both analog and digital, using the hand, the etching press and the large-format printer. Students explore technology in a broad sense, mixing traditional methods of printmaking with new image making techniques. Contemporary relief methods, monotypes, collagraphs and digital prints are some of the methods explored. The elements and principles of design are introduced to help guide students in creating thoughtful compositions. All inks and paints used in the class are water-based and non-toxic. Work created in this course can be used to supplement the Advanced Studio Art Portfolio. Offered winter (342) and spring (343).

**2D Drawing: Art 351, Art 353**

*Open to all forms; Prerequisite Visual Foundation*

2D Drawing offers further exploration of the drawing concepts and skills introduced in Visual Foundation. Composition, line, perspective, value, spatial relationships and the portrait are reviewed and applied to more complex situations. In addition, a color drawing is introduced as well as several projects based on personal ideas and self-expression. This course can serve as a preparation for the Advanced Portfolio courses and students may use artwork created in this class to supplement their portfolio. Offered fall (351) and spring (353).

**2D Painting: Art 363**

*Open to all forms; Prerequisite Visual Foundation*

This course is an excellent opportunity to use color, learn a variety of painting techniques and become familiar with master painters both past and present. Through the use of acrylic paint and other water based media, a series of painting projects will be pursued in an effort to develop a variety of skills, techniques and aesthetic concepts. Students will first be introduced to the rudiments of color theory, focusing on the interaction of hue, value and intensity. The elements of art will be introduced and used to guide students to develop thoughtful compositions. Subjects of study include still life, landscape and self-portrait. Master painters from the Renaissance, to contemporary will be introduced through images within the context of specific assignments. Each project will culminate in a formal critique in which class participation is crucial. Painting is open to all forms although Visual Foundation is a prerequisite. Work executed in this course can be used to supplement the Advanced Studio Art Portfolio. Offered spring only (363).

**Documentary Video: Art 371, Art 373**

*Open to all forms; Prerequisite Visual Foundation*

We live in a world in which we have access to powerful computer tools and emergent technologies. In this studio course, we explore the creation of complex digital images and the many ways in which video can support creative expression. Students develop projects and occupy the roles of creator, subject and audience. As such, this course is lab-based and hands-on. The goal is to craft documentary videos that can be analyzed both in terms of their intended impact and their ability to elicit an empathetic experience. Classroom activities and projects focus on the use of Adobe Premiere editing software. Student assessment is based on the quality of and ability to present a cohesive narrative, and on acquired technical competence. Students must supply their own tripod. Offered fall (371), and spring (373) depending on enrollment.
**Video Animation: Art 382, Art 383**

*Open to all forms; Prerequisite Documentary Video*

This one-trimester elective will focus specifically on the use of video cameras and editing software for producing animated films. Students will increase their knowledge of the process of animation from initial concept and storyboarding through final rendering by using animation software and studying both traditional and digital animation techniques. Animation refers to the creation of a sequence of images, drawn, painted, or produced by other artistic methods that change over time to portray the illusion of motion. Beginning with the technique known as “stop motion”, the class will implement the Mac Lab to experiment using computer generated imagery (CGI). Student assessment is based on the quality of and ability to use animation to artistically express themselves and effectively tell a concise story through animation. Students must supply their own tripod. Offered winter (382) and spring (383).

**Advanced Placement Studio Art Portfolio/Drawing: Art 410/A**

*Open by invitation to fourth-, fifth- and sixth-formers; Prerequisite Visual Foundation*

This full-year drawing portfolio course is designed to address a very broad interpretation of drawing issues and media. Light and shade, line quality, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation and illusion of depth are drawing issues that will be addressed during the first half of the year. Many works of painting, printmaking and mixed media, as well as abstract, observational and inventive works are appropriate for the “breadth” section of the portfolio. The remainder of the year, students will choose a personal topic in what is called the “concentration” section. A concentration is a body of related works that demonstrate a student’s sustained and thoughtful investigation of a specific visual idea. This self-guided portion of the course aims to produce a group of twelve works that are unified by a visual or conceptual theme. Advanced Studio Art Portfolio courses are designed to promote the development of a cohesive body of work in accordance with the structure of the guidelines for college admissions. Students will have the option of submitting their completed portfolio to the College Board to receive an Advanced Placement score.

**Advanced Placement Studio Art Portfolio/2D Design: Art 420/A**

*Open by invitation to fourth-, fifth- and sixth-formers; Prerequisite: Visual Foundation*

Portfolios created for this full-year class are intended to address a broad interpretation of two-dimensional design issues. This type of design involves a decision-making process using the elements of design (line, shape, illusion of space and motion, pattern, texture, value and color) and ordering principles (proportion/scale, rhythm, hierarchy, symmetry/balance and unity) to create a coherent and meaningful composition. The elements are explored and used as a means of artistic expression. The principles help guide students in making decisions about how to organize the elements. Students are asked to demonstrate a proficiency in two-dimensional design using a variety of art forms. These could include, but are not limited to, graphic design, digital imaging, photography, collage, illustration, painting and printmaking. A variety of approaches to representation, abstraction and expression may be part of this portfolio. Students will have the option of submitting their completed portfolio to the College Board to receive an Advanced Placement score.
Advanced Placement Studio Art Portfolio/3D Design: Art 430/A

Open by invitation to fourth-, fifth- and sixth-formers; Prerequisite: Visual Foundation

Three-Dimensional Design Portfolio, a full-year elective, explores a wide range of three-dimensional concepts. Concepts, such as space, plane, volume, form, light and texture are explored through a series of three-dimensional exercises. Additive, subtractive and fabricated processes are utilized to articulate design ideas into coherent three-dimensional solutions. Students are expected to demonstrate a variety of skills, which include traditional sculpture, architectural models, ceramics, wood and metal work as well as industrial design prototypes. Students explore the work of professional artists, designers and architects for ideas and inspiration. Students learn to evaluate their own solutions and those of their peers through regular critiques. Sixteen finished sculptures will be produced (8 breadth, 8 concentration) in accordance with the guidelines suggested by the College Board. Students will have the option of submitting their completed portfolio to the College Board to receive an Advanced Placement score.

Design Science: Art 433  (Also offered as Math 433)

Open to all forms; Prerequisites one trimester Geometry, Visual Foundations

This one-trimester course is intended to provide students with hands-on experience in designing, creating, and analyzing two- and three-dimensional geometric structures, sculptures, and models using a variety of media (including paper, wood, metal, ceramics, etc.). Students successfully completing this course would receive one trimester credit in art and one trimester credit in mathematics. Possible topics and projects include tessellations, polyhedra, Platonic solids, Archimedean solids, and the mathematics and design of commercial packaging. Class periods for this course would include lecture/demonstration and hands-on labs. One or two field trips to local manufacturing facilities and art museums would be included. Each student will maintain a daily journal containing research assignments, design sketches, and potential ideas relating to class projects. The resources of the Arts Center, the Welding Lab, and the Fab-Lab would be utilized for the hands-on part of this course. Offered in the spring.

Architecture: Art 441, Art 442, Art 443

Open to fifth- and sixth-formers; Prerequisite Visual Foundation

In this trimester-long course, students embark on a journey of investigation, creativity and discovery. Using the design process and a wide range of two- and three-dimensional media and techniques, students are challenged to solve a problem related to architectural design. Through a series of hands-on exercises, students explore formal concepts; design elements; principles and history common to architecture, interior architecture, landscape architecture and industrial design. Alternative building techniques, sustainability, and “green building” are also investigated. Analytical skills and understanding are reinforced through critique, written assignments, and field trips. Maintaining a notebook of design ideas, sketches, notes and research is a key component of the course. Each trimester culminates with a final project, where students are asked to create a tangible presentation that effectively and creatively communicates their design intentions. Students will utilize the Fab Lab to create their final presentations.

The project theme will change each trimester to enable interested students to take more than one term; Art 441, 442 and 443 may be taken singly or in any combination. Here are a few hypothetical projects that may differentiate each term:

The Lit Dwelling: Students design a small dwelling, focusing on its exterior form and materials. Students create scale drawings and an illuminated scale model for their final presentation.
Earthship Design: According to architect Michael Reynolds, “the Earthship is the epitome of sustainable design and construction.” Students are introduced to the principles of Earthship design and sustainable building and are asked to design an “Earthship” or earth sheltered home. Students create scale drawings and a model for their final presentation.

Tiny House: Students will focus on house design, sustainability and green building techniques as they develop ideas for a small but efficient home. Students create scale drawings and model for their final presentation.

**Advanced Sculpture/Welding: Art 453**

*Open to fourth-, fifth- and sixth-formers; Prerequisite Visual Foundation*

This course provides an introduction to welded steel sculpture. Technical and analytical skills are developed as students employ the concepts, vocabulary and techniques practiced in the Three-Dimensional Design Course. Students learn to operate safely the power tools and welding equipment associated with the fabrication of steel sculpture, including oxyacetylene and MIG methods. The course begins with research and discussion related to the history of 20th century sculpture, with a written paper presented to the class in a seminar format. Students build intermediary models prior to executing full-scale designs. A journal of drawings, research and personal observations is maintained as a method for organizing and developing potential plans. The semester culminates in a large-scale steel sculpture of each student’s individual design. The text used is Nathan Cabot Hale’s *Creating Welded Sculpture*. Offered spring only.