
St. Xavier Fine Arts

Class of 2024

2019-2020

Each student at Saint Xavier is required to complete one semester of Fine Arts as a freshman and one semester of Fine Arts as a sophomore. As an incoming freshman, you must choose which specific Fine Arts course you would like to enroll in for next year. Please review the descriptions of the freshman course offerings to help in your decision making.

The Fine Arts Department at Saint Xavier offers a wide variety of course offerings. Each option is unique, challenging and rewarding. Do not feel like you need to have prior experience in the course(s) that you might be interested in. The level one Fine Arts courses are designed to accommodate students that are interested in building a foundational skill set and knowledge base, with the potential of expanding on and developing those attributes with additional courses in the future.

It is possible for students with prior experience to be placed into a higher-level course. If you feel that you are more advanced due to additional training/experience outside of the classroom, please email FineArtsInfo@stxavier.org for more information about the assessment process. Please indicate in your email the specific genre of Fine Art in which you have prior experience. The teacher of that genre will reply with more information about the audition/portfolio review requirements that you must complete to be considered.

DRAWING 1

Do you love to draw, sketch, doodle, design and create? Visual art dominates our lives and it's not just the images hanging on our walls. Websites, apps, video games, the vehicles that transport us, the clothes on our backs, and the designs of the products we use daily were all drawn up before they became reality. Drawing 1 will provide the stepping stones into the fields of graphic design, architecture, web and app design, video game design, animation, automotive design, photojournalism, industrial design, fashion design and illustration, just to name a few.

This course stresses the importance of the fundamentals of art and design, breaking down visual art into its most basic elements and principles in order to build a strong foundation. The class is designed to prove that anyone and everyone can learn how to draw.



Drawing 1 also offers one-on-one collaboration with your teachers, guiding and motivating your creative expression, exploring your personal artistic interests and preparing you for future artistic endeavors.

MUSIC 1

Ever wanted to understand what makes your favorite song so great? Want to learn how to play it yourself? Music 1 is a general music course intended to provide an overview and introduction of the elements of music and musical performance.

The course introduces students to musical concepts including melody, harmony, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, and musical instruments. Material will be presented through in-class discussions, audio

and visual examples, and practical application on the piano, ukulele, and other instruments. By the end of the course, students will be able to read and perform full pieces of music as soloists and in small ensembles, and to evaluate performances based on the material covered.

ACTING 1

This course is an introduction to the world of acting in film, TV and theatre. Students will build presentation skills that will aid them throughout their life by playing improvisational games and performing scenes from published

scripts. Acting 1 is a prerequisite for all advanced performance or theatrical design classes.





BAND 1

Band 1 is designed to provide a band rehearsal setting for students who wish to begin or continue to develop their playing ability on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument.

There is an emphasis on development of musicianship and playing skills throughout the semester as we rehearse and prepare band repertoire for performance. This group will perform as a large ensemble with sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

STRINGS 1 / GUITAR 1

These beginning classes are available for violin, viola, cello, bass, and guitar players. These courses offer students a focus on their individual playing, as well as challenging music to play with others. There are many performance opportunities available.



CHOIR 1

Become part of one of the great St. X traditions by singing with a brotherhood of your friends and colleagues in X-Men, the school's men's chorus. A second semester freshman course focused on studying and preparing choral repertoire from a variety of musical styles and periods by learning the basic skills of musical performance and vocal health in an energetic, men's chorus rehearsal setting. While no prior experience is necessary, students will be expected to increase their musical reading and performance skills through exercises provided by the instructor, and through consistent progress in rehearsals.