**Digital Photography -Course Description:** Photography is a semester long course for 9th thru 12th grade. Students must have a camera. Digital Photography is designed to develop skills in pixel based photographic design and printing. In this course, the students will create, edit, post and share their images electronically. VES provides the latest version of Photoshop on the Cloud. Students wishing to edit on their personal computers should purchase a one year subscription to the cloud. Field trips into the Lynchburg community happen frequently in this class. Digital Photography includes the ability to see, appreciate and create self expression through the lens and Photoshop. Students synthesize these elements to create a portfolio of work that reflects their newly developed skills. The assignments require students to think creatively and imaginatively and encourage students to solve problems in an individual manner. The student will participate in critiques in both individual and group settings. Art appreciation will include discussion of periods of photography and photographers styles. **Digital Photography requires no prerequisite.**

**Art Foundations Art I - Course Description:** Foundations is a semester long course for 9th thru 12th grade. This course examines art as media and criticism for the first year art student. Attention is given to creative thinking and problem solving skills. Beginning art students develop the ability to “read” and to use the Principles and Elements of design used by artists to communicate ideas. They develop an understanding of design principles in order to create art. A first year art student will become familiar with the vocabulary, the tools and the media used by artists and designers as well as develop and understanding and an appreciation of art. **Art Foundations I and II** **requires no prerequisite.**

**Art Foundation Art II -Course Description**: Studio II is a semester long course for 9th thru 12th grade. This is an advanced art course in which the student will become more artistically creative and visually literate. Students who have completed Studio Art I may continue in Studio Art II and will work in two and three-dimensional works. This course contributes to students’ development in the four content areas of art production, art history, art criticism, and aesthetics. Students familiarized with this basic core of information have the opportunity to become more confident in their visual literacy and production of art.  **Art Foundations II requires the prerequisite of Art Foundations I or teacher assessment.**

**AP Studio Art Course Description:** AP Studio Art is a full year long course for art students who have completed Studio art I and Studio Art II. This course is designed to guide students in the creation of a portfolio, which addresses three major concerns in the study of art:

(1) Quality- A synthesis of form, technique and content in the student’s work.

(2) Concentration- An in-depth investigation and process of discovery centered on a particular and compelling visual interest or problem.

(3) Breadth- A breadth of experience that exhibits serious grounding in visual principles as well as formal, technical and expressive means of the artist.

Formal visual concerns, technical skills, and conceptual issues will be addressed through creative means in both teacher-directed assignments and student-directed projects. The creation of an AP Studio Art portfolio is an involved and personal process of discovery, which is dependent on the student’s unique thinking and problem-solving skills. It is hoped that this course will not only help the student to produce an excellent body of artwork, but additionally it will introduce the student to the richness of the creative process on a personal level, open the door to personal discovery, and allow the student to make meaningful contributions to the greater culture. **AP Studio Art requires the prerequisites of Art Foundation I and II and Painting and Drawing or Photography I and II ( for AP Photography).**

**or teacher assessment.**

**Drawing:** Drawing is a ½ year course and should be combine with Painting. This class is a studio based visual arts class emphasizing drawing.

Students enrolled must show a high level of motivation, independence, and ability to work on their own, both in and outside of class.

The content of this course will encompass various techniques and drawing media, expansion of foundation skills and the development of a personal style and themes. Thinking and articulating personal ideas in verbal critique/discussions with the teacher and peers, is also part of this class. As a visual arts course, proper presentation (matting and exhibiting) of your artwork will be part of the final cumulating experience. **Drawing requires the Art Foundations classes or teacher assessment**

**Painting: Painting is a ½ year course and should be combined with drawing.** This course introduces students to painting techniques and concepts. Painting from still-life, landscape, and life models from observation will be geared towards realism; at the same time, various other painting styles will be explored. Color theory, composition, figure/ground relationships, visual perception, spatial concepts, and critical thinking skills will all be emphasized extensively. The use of Water Colors, Acrylics, Oils and Mixed Media will be the primary mediums for this class. **Painting requires Art Foundations classes or teacher assessment.**