**Art History Course Objectives**

**Developing critical thinking skills in students:**

Students learn to apply decision-making analytical, and problem- solving skills that will facilitate rational, effective lifelong learning. To discuss and write about art, students must fuse the skills that define critical thinking analysis. Inference, interpretation, comparison, contrast, evaluation, synthesis. Moreover the will use critical thinking skills to make connections on different levels-concrete and abstract; personal and impersonal; literal and figurative

**Increasing cultural literacy:**

Students gain an understanding of many different cultural traditions. Art is a reflection of the society that produces it, as well as of the individual artist.

**Developing visual perception:**

Students learn to see rather than just look. The capacity for observation of details in art can be transferred to observation of their natural world. Knowledge and understanding develops as the experience of seeing expands.

**Understanding creativity, growth, and maturity of a style and/or artist:**

Because of the chronological approach, students gain valuable information by observing the evolution of an artist’s work from the beginning to the end of his/her career. Understanding chronological evolution of a style is also important in the study of a pluralistic style.

**Developing art vocabulary:**

The language of two dimensional art, sculpture, and architecture includes the study of the elements of art and principles of design as well as technical terms, stylistic devices, and building methods.

**Studying media, techniques and processes:**

Viewing original works of art in various media, demonstrations of techniques and processes, and “hands-on” experiences provide a better understanding of the arts.

Connecting literature and history and art:

To dimensional art and sculptures, as narrative forms of expression, often allude to literature, mythology, religion, and historical events.

**Understanding Patronage and the economics of art:**

Patronage, economics and the “business” of art lend another dimension to the study of art history. Where has the money come from to support the arts and why?