



**INTERNATIONAL
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

Fine Arts & Media Department: 2026-2027

Department Chair: **Chris Meyer**



"Starry Night", by Vincent van Gogh, Saint-Rémy-de-Provence, (France), June 1889

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Introduction to Fine Arts and Media

Welcome to the Fine Arts and Media Department at ICS. This Subject Handbook is designed to provide an overview of the Fine Arts and Media Department's policies, procedures, and curriculum. It serves as a guide for teachers, students, and parents to ensure a cohesive and effective learning environment.

Fine Arts and Media Department Vision and Mission

Vision (Fine Arts)

To empower students for lifelong engagement with the visual world through integrated artistic disciplines that recognize art as a God-given gift for His glory.

Vision (Media)

To equip students for lifelong learning and discerning media consumption in a digital world through collaborative production and critical reflection filtered through a Christian perspective.

Mission

To glorify God through the Fine Arts and Media by utilizing our creative talents and imagination to produce beautiful, thought-provoking work that reflects the wonder of His creation.

Secondary Department Faculty by Course

Middle School Courses	Grade	Teacher
Grade 6 Art	6	S. Tam
Grade 7 Art	7	S. Tam
Grade 8 Art	8	S.Tam, J. Schortgen

High School Courses	Grade	Teacher
Drawing 1	9 - 10	J. Schortgen, cmeyer
Painting 1	9 - 10	cmeyer
3D Art	9 - 10	J. Schortgen
Drawing 2	10 - 12	cmeyer
Painting 2	10 - 12	cmeyer
Photography 1	10 - 12	cmeyer
Digital Design 1	10 - 12	cmeyer
Adv. Honours Art 2D	11 - 12	cmeyer
Adv. Honours Art 3D	11 - 12	cmeyer
Photography 2	11 - 12	cmeyer
Digital Design 2	11 - 12	cmeyer
Year Book	11 - 12	cmeyer
AP Studio Art (2D Art)	12	cmeyer
AP Studio Art (3D Art)	12	cmeyer
AP Studio Art (Digital Design)	12	cmeyer
AP Studio Art (Drawing)	12	cmeyer
AP Studio Art (Photography)	12	cmeyer

High School Courses	Grade	Teacher
Film 1	9 - 12	J. Schortgen
Film 2	9 - 12	J. Schortgen
Film 3	9 - 12	J. Schortgen
Film 4	11 - 12	J. Schortgen
Ceramics 1	9 - 12	J. Schortgen
Ceramics 2	9 - 12	J. Schortgen
Ceramics 3	9 - 12	J. Schortgen
Independent Ceramics	11 - 12	J. Schortgen

ICS Teaching & Learning Philosophy

ICS Standards

ICS has a standards-based approach to education. This means we have clear and objective targets (standards) for learning in every subject, at every grade level. In the liberal arts (Math, Science and the Humanities) we emphasise the importance of knowledge, which is the basis for much of what we call 'skills'. In the creative arts (Music, Art and Drama) we emphasise the quality of both technique and interpretation. In Physical Education and Health we develop standards of physical capacity and skill.

Assessing learning of these standards is achieved by the use of proficiency rubrics, which clearly delineate a continuum from 'below standard' to 'approaching standard' to 'meeting standard' to 'exceeding standard'. Both formative and summative assessments are appropriate to the subject-specific standards.

Theology is the "Queen of the Sciences", and so the Bible has the pre-eminent place in our curriculum, training students in a Biblical worldview and understanding of the 'whole counsel of God'.

ICS Teaching & Learning Principles

- The Bible is our final authority in all matters of faith and conduct
- We use evidence-based practice founded on good cognitive science
- Optimal learning is knowledge-based and teacher-directed
- The teaching cycle: explicit instruction, modelling, practice, feedback
- The essence of a liberal arts education is deep reading, thinking, writing and discussion, in pursuit of goodness, truth and beauty, through Socratic dialogue
- We prioritise the known benefits of physical reading and handwriting
- We prepare students to operate effectively in a dual-modal society: departmental handbooks outline where digital technology is effective in enhancing learning, and our curriculum policy details education in digital literacy
- ICS partners with parents in mitigating the harms associated with screen-based childhood and learning, including our policies on homework and device-use

ICS Assessment

Formative assessment refers to a variety of methods teachers use to gather evidence about the effectiveness of their teaching and of students' academic progress over time. Formative feedback to students aims to help students understand where they are at with their learning, where it is they should be aiming for, and how to take next steps towards mastery of particular learning.

Summative assessments are assessments used to evaluate students' proficiency against ICS Standards in a particular unit, semester, or course. These assessments 'count' towards final grades on which ICS reports in Semester One and Semester Two.

Art Department Curriculum

The focus of the ICS Fine Arts curriculum is to teach skills. We want our students to become excellent in the medium/media of their choice as they progress through their schooling. While our courses do build toward AP exams in 2D Design, Drawing, and 3D Design, we also want to recognize that art is an interest and a form of recreation for some - a chance to step away from academic settings for part of each day.

- Students should have effective training in order to build skills in several media.
- Students should be exposed to the artwork of artists and artwork from different periods of history and from around the world.
- Students should have the opportunity to participate in an art show each year.
- Students should learn to see art from a Christian perspective.

All students at the secondary school level will keep a sketchbook that should include a variety of media and/or techniques. As well:

For a copy of the full course scope and sequence for any of the courses below – which outline in detail the content, timing, and assessment of each course – please speak to the Department Chair, Mr. Meyer, or class teacher for a copy.

Note: For more information about each course in the Fine Arts and Media Curriculum, please read the following:

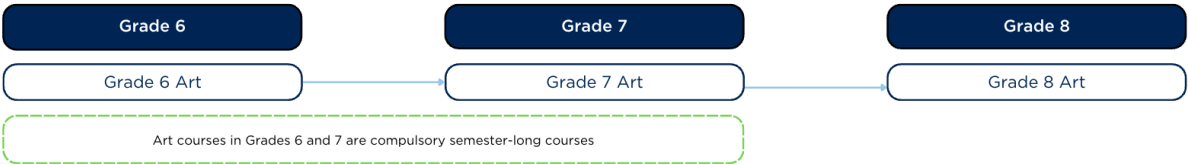
- [MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE 2026/27](#)
- [HIGH SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE 2026/27](#)

Middle School Courses	Grade		
Grade 6 Art	6		
Grade 7 Art	7		
Grade 8 Art	8		
High School Courses	Grade	High School Courses	Grade
Drawing 1	9 - 12	Ceramics 2	9 - 12
Drawing 2	10 - 12	Ceramics 3	10 - 12
Painting 1	9 - 12	Independent Ceramics	10 - 12
Painting 2	10 - 12	MEDIA: Film 1	9 - 12
Digital Design 1	10 - 12	MEDIA: Film 2	9 - 12
Digital Design 2	11 - 12	MEDIA: Film 3	10 - 12
Photography 1	10 - 12	MEDIA: Film 4	11 - 12
Photography 2	11 - 12		
Yearbook	11 - 12		
Adv. Honours Art 2D	11 - 12		
Adv. Honours Art 3D	11 - 12		
AP Studio Art	12		
3D Art	9 - 12		

Ceramics 1	9 - 12
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Fine Arts and Media Pathways Grades 6 - 12

Middle School Course Pathways



High School Course Pathways

