**Drawing 1 Course Description**

Drawing 1 is a half-year, half-credit course that serves as the foundation for more advanced art courses at LHS. It is structured so that a variety of age levels, interest levels, and prior experiences with art can be accommodated. Talent is *not* a requirement to do well in this course, but effort, attitude, willingness to improve as well as a creative outlook are. Conversely, if you wish to pursue art further at the high school level (and perhaps beyond that, even) this class is a great one to have on your transcript, and will allow you to take Drawing 2 or Painting Studio after you finish is successfully.

I do not always have my project list set in stone, because I like to adapt it based on the particular makeup of the students enrolled to address particular strengths, weaknesses, or interests for each different group of students. However, below is a general outline of what we’ll cover this year (although it is subject to change).

You will get a background in a variety of art skills and techniques, and become familiar with several forms of drawing media (art materials). We will use two-dimensional drawing media (using a tool to make marks and lines on a flat surface). You will also learn how to see more accurately, and successfully depict what you see to create the illusion of three-dimensionality in your work. We will start off with an abstract line design in Sharpie marker, helping you to focus on composition (how you’re setting things up in your design) and creativity. Then, we will move on to more observational still life drawing, eventually learning how abstraction can come from realism. At this time, we will also be focusing a lot on shading, both in gray scale and color. Next, we will learn facial proportions and use a mirror to adapt what we have learned to our own faces. We will do a colored pencil unit, focusing on both abstract and observational drawing in this medium. Then, we will end off learning how line can be used to create texture and value by doing a pen and ink drawing of the studio (we’ll cover the topic of depth and perspective), and you will add a creative twist to your drawing. Finally, we do a scratchboard zentangle project, covering many of the same concepts that our first line design covered, but in a different medium. Depending on how much time (if any) is left in the year, I may add in more projects based on the interests of students in the class.

This course is meant to be challenging, but not so much so that success in unattainable. I understand that all students in this class are at different places artistically, but you are expected to consistently hand in quality work and push yourself to get better.