

# Small Learning Communities



## ART HISTORY INSTITUTE

**SUMMARY:** Students electing the Art History Institute participate in a three period trihort that includes the graduation requirement for English IV plus two electives. Students must enroll in all three periods of the institute. Units of study allow students to research, write about, and create a work of art that reflects their understanding and assimilation of a particular genre of art. By focusing on career and community links, students are given a foundation for pursuing future careers, internships and networks in the field. Upon completion of the Art History Institute, students will have created a visual portfolio of selected art projects and art criticism. Career exploration and field trips enable students to become involved with the fields of architecture, interior design, historic site management, museum curatorship, free lance magazine writing, or theatre set design. What follows is a description of the course offering.



Vincent van Gogh

### **SOCIAL STUDIES: Art History**

**Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

This is a senior elective course. Students study a wide variety of art genres. The curriculum focuses on traditional art history, curator ship, historic preservation, conservation of art objects, architecture, museum exhibits, crafts, urban planning, fashion and furniture design, modern art, and theatre set design. The focus is on different styles of art, providing students with an understanding of the historical significance of the style and subject matter of the art.

### **ENGLISH: Art Criticism**

**Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

This course fulfills the English IV requirement for seniors. The course focuses on teaching students to formally analyze and criticize art in writing. Paintings as texts, for example, supplement the medium of literature as subject matter. Through writing, students have an outlet to express their thoughts, opinions and feelings about various types of artwork that may include photography, comics, sports' logos, architecture, fashion, sculpture and paintings. Students learn the "language" of the discipline and familiarize themselves with the terms and concepts necessary to describe a work of art.

### **VISUAL ARTS: Art Lab**

**Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

In art lab, students are guided through a number of activities to engage the student in art issues and theories, as well as art making skills and idea based strategies. This exciting and motivating curriculum promotes the cultural understanding of art history and art criticism in a studio setting. Creation of art work that directly coincides with historical events, styles, movements, techniques, methods, and genre is the expected outcome.