

Visual Arts

The following contains a description of the course we offer to students at St Marys Senior High. It is intended as a guide to help you select your subjects and you should read it carefully.

Please note:

- The details given represent the way that the course is delivered at St Marys Senior High and may involve different choices from the way other schools might operate the same course.
- Classes can only be formed where sufficient students select the particular course. The fact that a course is listed here is not a commitment to run the course in a particular year.
- The arrangements for particular courses are subject to change for a variety of reasons.

Visual Arts Course Details

Units	Type	ATAR	Faculty Teaching This Course
2	Board Developed Course – Examinable at the HSC, marks can be used to count towards an ATAR	A – Counts towards an ATAR with no restrictions	Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)

What will I be doing in this course?

In Visual Arts you will be making artworks and studying art history and criticism. Through these two components of the course you will be:

- Exploring a range of media, art forms and subject matter in your artworks
- Examining artworks and artmaking from a variety of different points of view
- Exploring the relationships between the artist, the artwork, the world and the audience
- Finding out about all of the things that influence the ways that artists make art and the ways that art critics and historians write about art

What should I be able to do at the end of the course?

You will be able to;

- Present a body of artwork that shows creativity and strength in its ideas and interpretation of subject matter
- Use art materials with confidence, sensitivity and technical competence
- Experiment, problem-solve and evaluate your art making process
- Develop an individual approach to artmaking

- Write about artworks, artists and art styles in art history
- Describe how the relationships between the artist, artwork, the audience and the world creates meaning in art

How will I be assessed in this course?

Assessment in Visual Arts is based on 50% practical artmaking and 50% art theory and history. The following types of activities may be included in the assessment program:

- Finished artworks
- Artmaking process documented in your art diary
- Research
- Examination

How will this course help me in the future?

In Visual Arts you will develop skills and qualities that are relevant to many situations in the workplace and in further study. This course encourages you to become a critical consumer of contemporary visual culture in a world that is dominated by visual images. You will develop the confidence to express your individuality and acquire the skills to express this in a creative way. The course encourages tolerance and empathy for different values and beliefs, as you explore ideas that are important to you. Your participation in Visual Arts will also strengthen your problem-solving and critical thinking skills especially in the area of visual communication.

This course is a prerequisite for many tertiary courses that have a visual or artistic component, such as Visual Arts and a range of Design courses. The study of Visual Arts can also earn you bonus points towards entry into some tertiary courses.

Students of Visual Arts also develop better 21st Century skills, which are highly valued in the workplace. These include critical and creative thinking, written and visual communication, and cultural awareness.

What about course costs?

Students are required to purchase a kit at the beginning of the course, which includes the Art Diary as well as a range of essential art materials for students to use at school and home. There is also a general course contribution to provide student access to a wide range of consumable materials to meet the needs of each student's media specialisation. Details will be provided at Open and Enrolment evenings.