



SVGS Arts & Humanities (Humanities, Fine Arts, Performing Arts)

SVGS has programs and courses designed to meet the unique needs of gifted and highly motivated students in different areas. Students may attend the ARTS & HUMANITIES program in one of three curriculum areas: *Humanities, Fine Arts, or Performing Arts*.

In the *Humanities* area, students take one credit in humanities and two credits from the following areas, culture, communications, psychology, sociology and other possible electives. This area provides students not interested in performing or producing art an opportunity for a broader educational experience in arts and humanities.

In the *Fine or Performing Arts* area, students take one credit in humanities and three credits from the following areas: studio, crafts and skills workshop, appreciation, and history. These areas provide students interested in fine or performing arts an intensive program to develop their skills.

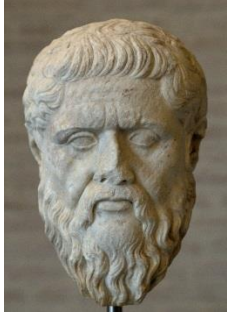
Numerous arts organizations and artists have partnered with SVGS to provide students with enrichment and extensions of the Arts program. In particular, students and staff work with the Staunton-Augusta Art Center, Shenandoah Valley Art Center, Shenan-Arts, Waynesboro Players, and the American Shakespeare Company. Many private artists have opened their homes and studios to SVGS students.

SVGS also presents a series of distinguished Humanities scholars and artists to share their backgrounds, experiences, knowledge and perspectives with students through the Giving Voice speaker series which has included experts from philosophy and ethics, communications, anthropology, sociology, writing, and film making.

NOTE: The designation (DE) beside a course indicates the course is offered for dual-enrollment college credit.

Area of Interest		Strand	Junior Year	Senior Year
ARTS	Humanities	<i>Humanities</i>	Humanities I (DE)	Humanities II (DE)
		<i>Appreciation</i>	Humanities in Western Culture (DE)	
		<i>Social/Cultural</i>	Psychology (DE)	**Communications (DE) **Psychology (DE) for 2018-19 (Sociology (DE) or other elective (DE) for 2019-2020) ** <i>required</i>
	Fine Arts	<i>Humanities</i>	Humanities I (DE)	Humanities II (DE)
		<i>Appreciation</i>	Art History - Pre-Ren (DE)	Art History – Ren - Mod (DE)
		<i>Skill</i>	***Studio Art I ***Crafts & Skills II *** <i>both required (portfolio review required)</i>	***Studio Art II/AP Studio ***Crafts & Skills II *** <i>both required (audition required)</i>
	Performing Arts	<i>Humanities</i>	Humanities I (DE)	Humanities II (DE)
		<i>Appreciation</i>	Intro to Theater (DE)	Drama Theory & Criticism
		<i>Skill</i>	***Acting I ***Crafts & Skills I * <i>both required (portfolio review required)</i>	***Acting II ***Crafts & Skills II * <i>both required (audition required)</i>

NEW Humanities Program Course Descriptions



Humanities Courses:

Governor's School **Humanities I** (1521) – Humanities I introduces students to the rigors of college-level academic writing and critical thinking. In the fall, students explore essential texts centered on timely issues such as education, language, gender and society, and ethics and morality. Class discussions form the cornerstone of exploring ideas and give students the opportunity to share insights and to appreciate others' perspectives. Students then generate their own essay topics and take those topics through the writing process: drafting, peer editing, conferencing with the teacher, rethinking, and revising. Later in the year, students transition to the course's literary focus with texts that reflect the emergence and evolution of the American Dream. These works help students understand the unique qualities of the American spirit and its relevance today. As part of the course, students gain experience in working with literary criticism to develop their growing understanding of what it means to make thoughtful assertions about texts and to be able to support those assertions. Essays require students to incorporate criticism as a means of supporting their own original observations. Students may opt to take this class for BRCC credit (Eng. 111/112, 3 credits each) at their own expense.

Governor's School **Humanities II** (1522) -- Humanities II builds on the composition and critical thinking skills students have established in Humanities I. Course content is focused on having students explore monsters and the literary imagination—the connection between monsters and the societies which create and perpetuate them. Texts reflect the chronological evolution of monsters, from Grendel in *Beowulf* to the zombie apocalypse in *World War Z*, and invite students to consider the psychological and cultural implications of monstrosity on society. Students continue to explore literary criticism as a means of supporting their original approaches to essays with an emphasis on seeking and using relevant digital sources effectively. Students who have successfully completed the BRCC pre-requisites may opt to take this class for BRCC credit (Hum. 111, 3 credits) at their own expense.

Governor's School **Communications** (1151) - A two-semester, continuous course in which you have the opportunity to acquire skills and explore communication theory, issues, challenges, and practical applications. The primary focus during the first semester is upon rhetoric and public speaking. The second semester opens up to explore nonverbal, interpersonal, small-group, intercultural, and mass communication. Students may opt to take this class for BRCC credit (CST 100 & CST 126, 3 credits each, total of 6 credits) at their own expense.

Governor's School **Humanities in Western Culture** (2315) - This course approaches an introductory survey of the humanities in western culture by focusing on significant events, styles, movements, and figures in western arts and philosophy. From the thinkers, writers, and artists of ancient Greece who created the foundations of western culture, we'll follow the journey from them through to our own contemporary ideas, styles, and the ever-growing variety of expressive modes and media.

Governor's School **Psychology** (4254) - This course is about you. We will work to understand about human nature – how one's brain works and how that supports their mind. This course introduces students to the scientific study of how we feel and act and to the fundamental knowledge of major concepts, theory, history, current trends in understanding human behavior and mental processes. Students will learn about the methods psychologists use to find the answers to questions about brain function and its relationship to behavior, perception, motivation, cognition, learning, personality, social and mental health. Students will learn to think critically about psychological evidence, to evaluate its validity and to apply its relevance to important issues in their own life. Students will develop insight into their own and others' behavior and mental processes and apply effective strategies for self-management and self-improvement. Students may opt to take this class for BRCC credit (PSYC 200, 3 credits) at their own expense.

Governor's School **Sociology** (2500) – (Tentatively scheduled to be offered in 2019-20) This course introduces the fundamentals of social life, and provides understanding of the structure and processes of modern societies and their historical antecedents. Students will explore the social experience by addressing such topics as culture, socialization, social interaction, bureaucracy, norms and diversity, social inequality, social institutions, modernization, technology and social change, world views, and values and behavior. Significant research and theory in areas such as culture, social structure, socialization, deviance, social stratification, and social institutions will be presented. Students may opt to take this class for BRCC credit (SOC 200, 3 credits) at their own expense.