Curriculum Overview
Art History

Course Description:
Art History is designed for students to understand, evaluate, and appreciate art and its history in a non-studio setting. A broad range of artistic styles, medias, and ideas from the past and present are used to examine the relationship and meaningful contribution of art to society. Students will view significant artwork from around the world through readings, research, slides, videos, and museum visits, while also participating in class discussions, visual presentations, research, and problem solving. Students will learn to look at works of art with intelligence and sensitivity, examining the major forms of artistic expression of the past and of distant cultures as well as those of our own time and environment.

Essential Skills/Processes: Students will--

● Develop awareness, imagination, perception, understanding and skill
● Foster creativity, self-expression, self-confidence and self-discipline
● Expand problem solving abilities and cultural understandings
● Be able to compare, contrast, and evaluate the work of artists and recognize that images, symbols, and objects are influenced by diverse cultural and social conventions.
● Understand how value and meaning of the artist's work is subject to different interpretations
● Critique works of art through a variety of written and verbal forms

Essential Knowledge: Students will--

● Examine and interpret works of art within the cultural and historical context with an understanding of cross cultural and global connections
● Understand the purpose and function of art within different cultures
● Analyze the impact of time, place, and culture on works of art
● Explore art as a means of communication
● Identify and interpret subject matter, metaphor, symbols, themes, and content
● Explore, describe, analyze, and interpret aesthetic qualities of works of art
● Be able to articulate reasons for making particular choices and defend a point of view and its relationship to the intent of the work
● Understand elements and principles of design
● Apply a broad knowledge of the visual language of art through the use of fundamental art and history terminology
● Be made aware of advances in technology that impact art education and career opportunities
Resources:

Stafford County Public Schools: https://www.staffordschools.net/

VA Standards of Learning: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/fine_arts/index.shtml