



# SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

## OUR MISSION

To expose students to Arts and Humanity fields through curricular enhancement, mentoring relationships, and educational experiences – providing insight to His calling in their lives

## THE PROGRAM

The School of Arts and Humanities (SOAH) is a two-year program oriented toward developing students' creative talents, rhetorical skills, and social awareness in both classroom-based and "real world" contexts. The curriculum, built around a cornerstone course entitled "Creativity and Reason," fosters students' gifts in Music, Visual Arts, Social Sciences, and Communication, and intentionally purposes these gifts toward vocational and socially conscious applications. Mentorships, independent projects, special events, speakers, and unique Jterm and Mterm offerings afford SOAH students the opportunity to see their creative talents as part of God's unique plan for strengthening their communities, viewing work vocationally, and enriching the culture around them.

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Students must apply for acceptance into the SOAH during the first semester of their sophomore year.

1. Submit a SOAH application with teacher references.
2. Interview with the SOAH Chairs.
3. Once accepted, schedule coursework based on chosen SOAH concentration.

## REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete the following requisites (keeping a C or higher in the class) to achieve the SOAH distinction at graduation.

- **Creativity and Reason (0.5 credit)** – Explores how the Humanities and Fine Arts contribute to civilized societies, and maps out the applications of creative and critical thinking to individual and community-based problem solving.
- **SOAH Capston** – Following the completion of Creativity and Reason, all SOAH students begin work on their Capstone. Originally the finishing touch on top of a building or wall, the term "capstone" now figuratively describes a concluding or crowning achievement to any great work. The SOAH Capstone describes a multifaceted independent study project that represents the culmination of knowledge and skills acquired in a student's course of study at CVCA. Each student designs and implements a project which explores an area of interest they have that will benefit a community outside CVCA.
- **Experiences (3 credits)** – Students participate in student-choice experiential learning opportunities that are exploratory, college-focused, and career-oriented in order to build relationships, gain hands-on skills and competencies, and prepare students for college and a career. Students need to earn three credits or experiences in order to graduate with distinction.

*Requirements continued on back...*

Schools of Distinction provide an innovative opportunity for CVCA students.

Designed for juniors and seniors, the two-year curriculum exposes students to professional fields and potential majors.

This program is in addition to CVCA's already rigorous college prep curriculum.

The Mission of all Schools of Distinction is "To expose our students to professional fields through...

- Curricular enhancements (extra classes in a specific field)
- Mentoring relationships and community partnerships (mentoring, community projects, field trips, etc.)
- Experiential learning (internships, shadowing, competitions, guest lecturers, projects, etc.)

...providing insight into His calling in their lives."



## REQUIREMENTS cont.

Electives (based on SOAH concentration) – Based on a student’s interests, a series of electives and extracurricular opportunities at CVCA (carrying various weights) is chosen by the student and approved by SOAH leadership. During their time in the program, the student must earn a minimum of 4.0 points of credits in electives.

- **4 Points:** Year-long AP or College-level course in: Visual Art; Music; Social Studies; or World Language
- **2 Points:** Semester-long AP or College-level course in: Social Studies or select English electives, and year-long course in: Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Yearbook, World Language 3 or 4
- **1 Point:** Semester-long course or membership in: Visual Arts; Social Studies Elective; Royal Theatre; Show Choir; Talking Royals

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## FEES

The cost for the SOAH is \$300 per year. Once accepted, a student’s position is confirmed when the automatic payment is completed through their FACTS method of payment on file. Unconfirmed positions may be offered to other candidates.

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## DISTINCTIONS

Students who complete all SOAH requirements receive the following distinctions:

- **Arts and Letters Cord at Graduation:** Students receive a traditional purple cord.
- **Transcript Designation:** Students receive a special distinction on their transcript, and may potentially earn an Arts Honors diploma from the State of Ohio, given their academic record and completion of additional requisites specified by the State of Ohio.

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## JTERM/MTERM

During their time in SOAH, students must complete a Jterm/Mterm course or CEO that serves to advance their interest and experience with respect to the SOAH concentration they have chosen. Each year, students are provided with a list of Jterm/Mterm classes which would satisfy this requirement.

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## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Each student has the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of experiences in and out of CVCA that can be customized to their interests and goals. These *Experience Schools of Distinction* opportunities are available in three categories: Exploratory, College, and Career

Through *Experience*, students have the opportunity to chart a path of high-value, customized experiences that maximize the impact of their participation in their School of Distinction. Experiences include mentoring, shadowing, internships, college visits, problem-solving challenges, attendance industry guest speaker programs, and many more. Each experience earns students credits. Each student is required to complete three credits in order to achieve distinction. They are encouraged and welcome to participate in even more.

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## UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

Students’ activities and coursework toward achieving the School of Arts and Humanities distinction at CVCA will maintain a vocational focus – that is, a way of relating the students’ interests in Fine Arts and Humanities concentrations to real world concerns and social problems that require creative solutions. Furthermore, a SOAH Symposium will showcase senior students’ portfolio projects for an authentic audience of family, friends, and local community members.

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## SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES CONTACT

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