

AP Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio Syllabus

Course Description:

This course promotes a sustained investigation of all three aspects of portfolio development: Quality, Concentration, and Breadth – as outlined in the AP Studio Art Course Description (C1). Students are expected to develop a mastery of concept, composition, and demonstrate the use of the elements of art to organize the principles of design in all works (C2). A portfolio of college-level drawings will be the focus of this course. In the development of the portfolio, students will develop their own personal style, and they will demonstrate an ongoing process of critical decision making and creative thinking through the creation of their work (C5).

Goals of the AP Studio Art Course:

- To encourage creative as well as systematic investigation of formal and conceptual issues in the Quality, Concentration and Breadth sections of the portfolio (C1).
- To emphasize making art as an ongoing process that involves the student as informed and critical decision making to develop ideation (C5).
- To develop technical versatility and skills while using the visual elements and principles in compositional forms (C4)
- To encourage students to become independent thinkers who will contribute inventively and critically to their culture through the making of art.

Portfolio Requirements:

**AP work should reflect these three areas of concern:
Quality, Concentration and Breadth.**

The portfolio will consist of a personal visual idea explored in the Concentration section, which will consist of 12 pieces. To develop this body of work a coherent plan of investigation is crucial (C3). In the breadth section students will create 12 high quality works. During this process students will explore various techniques, ideation, and problem solving (C4). Five high level works that demonstrate mastery in concept, composition, and execution will be selected for the quality section (C2).

Homework:

As in any college-level course students will be expected to spend a considerable amount of time outside the classroom working on the completion of projects. Many supplies will be supplied in class but additional supplies may need to be purchased or gathered to fully develop project ideas and to work out solutions to visual problems. Sketchbooks/Journals will be used by students in and out of class to work out and

record ideas, to capture visual information, to work on compositional issues, to discuss thoughts about their art and to respond to class critiques. Sketchbooks/Journals will be monitored, graded, and discussed frequently.

Studio Time:

Studio time will be available one afternoon a week (Wednesdays) for an open studio. A schedule of meeting dates will be posted. Some of these meetings will be open for students to work on projects independently and some will be for announced structured activities. Students are responsible for using time to their best advantage; plan ahead so that all deadlines are met. Additionally, the classroom will be open at 8:15 a.m. each morning, except Wednesdays, for open studio time.

Exhibitions/Competitions:

A.P. Studio Art students are encouraged to participate in exhibitions and competitions. Student work will be submitted to County Art Shows. An exhibition of student work will on display at our school at the end of the school year. Details about this exhibition will be provided toward the end of the second semester.

Assignment/Evaluation:

Student artwork is an individual expression of the artist's ideas and experiences, yet there are common standards by which we will be able to grade the quality and effort in student work. We will use an AP Studio Art rubric to grade finished projects; this rubric is similar to the grading style of the actual AP portfolios and will enable students to understand the grading system of the portfolio. Other components of the class will be graded, as the goal of the course is to develop mastery in concept, composition and execution of artwork (C2). Students should make every effort to complete work by the assigned due date, however, there may be circumstances that cause an assignment to be delayed. It is important that students have a discussion with the instructor if the work is going to be late or if they will miss a critique. Work should be original and students will understand that work that is based on published images is plagiarism. Students will learn to develop their own work so that it moves beyond duplication of another artist's work (C7).

Sketchbook/Journal:

Students' sketchbooks will be graded on a regular basis. Sketchbooks will be used for homework assignments, to record observations, and to use for ideation.

Critiques:

Both verbal and written critiques will be graded. Work is evaluated in progress and in the finished state through critiques with teacher and peers (C6). The AP Studio Art rubric, which is distributed at the beginning of the course, provides the grading criteria. Assessment of student work is based on original compositions and artistic integrity.

Semester 1 Breadth Overview

During the first semester of the course students will work on the breadth section of the Portfolio through experimenting with a variety of media, conceptual exploration and ideation. These assignments will allow students to explore various ideas, media, and techniques (C4). During the semester, verbal and written critiques will take place on a regular basis with the students both one on one and as a group. These conversations will enable students to learn to analyze and discuss their own artworks and those of their peers (C6). All students are expected to use an art vocabulary which demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the elements and principles of design. Students must complete all assignments, both in and out of class. At the end of the semester, students will begin to decide on a theme for their concentration. This theme must demonstrate a coherent body of work (C3).

Breadth Units:

Still Life

Mark Making

Environments

Portrait Study

Figure Study

Artists' Movements/Styles

Semester 2 Concentration Overview

12 works, one underlying theme

The main focus of the second semester will be the creation of a body of work for the concentration section. This body of work will be related with one underlying theme (C3). In this body of work students should demonstrate the development of concept, composition, and execution of design (C2). Students will research artists whose work relates to their concentration. Students will receive individual conferences about their selections for their concentration, and their sequencing of work. A written proposal will be required for each work in their concentration, and will be subject to revision after individual conferencing. This will allow students to develop their concentration through a progression of problem solving and critical decision making (C5).

Proposal Requirements

- Thumbnail sketches/final draft of project
- Visual resources and inspirational sources
- Historical research/Artist and Cultural research
- Media and process exploration
- Time line for completion of project.

Towards the end of the second semester students will begin final preparation for the AP Drawing Portfolio. Students will receive individual conferencing regarding selections for each section of the portfolio. The AP Studio Art poster will be referenced for the sequencing of images for digital submission for the concentration and breadth section of their portfolio (C1). At the completion of the course students will submit their best five actual works for quality section of the Drawing Portfolio.