AP Studio Art

Course Description

In this course, students explore advanced visual art concepts, hone the skills learned in prerequisite courses, and more fully develop a personal visual language and aesthetic. They have the opportunity to select one of three different focus areas upon enrollment: Drawing, 2-D Art and Design, and 3-D Art and Design. Specific coursework is designed through a collaborative process between the teacher and the individual student. Throughout the year, students investigate the materials, processes and ideas that artists and designers use in this focus area; they practice, experiment and revise their work; and, they communicate their ideas about their own and others' works of art and design. In May, students submit a digital portfolio to be scored by the College Board. The exact criteria of each portfolio is reviewed with the student as a part of the coursework. In alignment with the Holy Cross **Portrait of the Crusader**, students learn to be resilient and use feedback from critiques as an opportunity for growth. The classroom environment fosters respect, kindness, and service to others in a collaborative culture in which students assist each other in skill-building with compassion and support.

Essential Questions for the Course

- What ideas and subjects does the student most want to investigate in this AP year?
- What research will best support this investigation?
- What materials must the artist acquire in order to manifest their vision for the AP work ?
- What assignments would best support the student's sustained investigation throughout all four quarters of the school year?
- What is the relationship between the degree of difficulty/time necessary to complete each assignment and the number of works that need to be created to fulfill the AP College Board's requirements?
- How does research into art history inform and support the student's own work and provide context for that work?
- How might the student use personal concerns, popular culture, issues related to current socio political topics and other issues to inform their work, building relevance and a means to artistic self expression?

Concepts and Skills Developed in the Course

- Formulate questions that guide a sustained investigation in one area of art and design.
- Identify the particular subjects, mediums, ideas, issues and genres of greatest interest.
- Investigate the materials, processes, and ideas that artists use in this area of concentration.
- Investigate and describe how materials, processes, and ideas in art and design relate to context.
- Develop the ability to create, experiment and revise work based on personal vision and constructive feedback.
- Integrate and synthesize the knowledge gained in all previous art courses to create a personal body of work that most fully expresses individual vision and aesthetic.

- Interpret works of art and design based on materials, processes, and ideas used.
- Communicate ideas about art and art criticism in precise language.

Course Requirements Each Quarter

- Select the subjects, context, media, forms, and genres for the work and develop a concrete plan for completing this work explaining how the primary focus and sustained investigation will progress through the quarter. This plan must be reviewed with and approved by the teacher at the beginning of the quarter. Students will:
 - 1. Name each assignment and provide the due date.
 - 2. Tell the approximate size and medium to be used
 - 3. Describe learning goals for the work. For example, will the student hone specific skills? Gain new skills in a specific area?
 - 4. Define the preliminary studies that will be conducted to prepare for each major work.
- Create double-page journal entries (or more than one optionally) each week. This will be due on the last day class meets on any regular 5 day week with the due date being adjusted for short weeks. The purpose of the journal is for the development of visual ideas for the AP assignments, serving as a repository for drawings, painting, college and work in any medium including photos, text, markers, ink and anything that will serve the student in terms of inspiring and informing their work.
- Write a museum report which demonstrates an understanding of historical and cultural context, the language of art criticism, and the scope of art throughout history and the world. Students will:
 - 1. Determine the benefits of viewing original art works in person at a gallery or museum.
 - 2. Determine what kinds of art the student responds to most evocatively and how might this response inform their own choices of subjects, mediums and aesthetic views.
 - 3. Explore the elements of art and the principles of art when analyzing and responding to works of art.
- Adhere to due dates and the exact number of assessments each quarter. The number of assessments will depend upon the degree of difficulty and time required for each and will be determined by the instructor after ongoing consultation with the student.

Course Requirements to Prepare Portfolio

- Set up work for the optimum lighting situation when shooting professional level photos of work for submission.
- Hone the ability to discuss and write about work in context of process, materials, and their growth throughout the course of their sustained investigation.
- Identify, in writing, questions or inquiry that guided a sustained investigation through art and design.
- Describe, in writing, how a sustained investigation through art and design shows evidence of practice, experimentation, and revision guided by questions or inquiry.
- Identify, in writing, materials, processes, and ideas used to make works of art.
- Describe how works of art demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas
- Describe how works of art demonstrate drawing skills
- Present works of art and design for viewer interpretation.
 - Selected Works (40% of AP Portfolio score): Five digital images of five works that each demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas using drawing skills
 - Sustained Investigation: (60% of AP Portfolio score)15 works that demonstrate sustained investigation based on the inquiry of the student's choosing. The work in this section should reflect ongoing practice, experimentation, and revision.

Please see the next page for the Museum Report Outline

AP STUDIO ART MUSEUM REPORT OUTLINE

- I. Gallery or museum visited, location, date visited
- II. Title of exhibit (if a temporary exhibit) or section of the museum (if work is part of a permanent collection)
- III. Specific work(s) viewed
 - A. Title
 - B. Medium (ex.- oil, watercolor, mixed media, charcoal)
 - C. Size
- IV. Analyze the work and write a few paragraphs describing the work; style, methods of execution, subject matter, and the way the elements of art are used with the principles of art. Answer questions such as:
 - A. What are the dominant elements visible in the work? Shapes/Forms? Colors? Line? Pattern/Textures? Space? What are the dominant principles in the work?Movement/Rhythm? Harmony? Variety? Emphasis? Proportion?
 - B. Which of the 3 aesthetic views is evident in the work? Subject, Content, Abstract
- V. Critique the work and write a paragraph. Answer questions such as:
 - A. Do you like it?
 - B. How does it affect you or make you feel?
 - C. How does it affect your thinking, your opinions of the world and, or of art itself?
 - D. How does this work influence your AP work?

Image Gallery



Figure 1 - Journal pages

