

ART 1 Syllabus

Course Description:

This introductory art course examines the visual arts in what is known as the formalist approach. In the first semester of this year-long course, the major focus is on the elements of art – line, shape, form, color, value, texture, and space. How these elements are put together in a composition -- the principles of design -- is the foundation of the second semester; students will explore the ways that well known artists have used these basic building blocks of art.

Activities are provided that allow the expressive use of the elements and principles in personal artwork while students are developing their technical skills. Ample opportunities for discussion and reflection are incorporated into assignments with many suggestions for adapting or extending the learning experience.

Ideas, styles, and periods -- the historical and cultural context of art -- is an essential part of learning about the impact that the visual arts have had throughout the ages. The course will examine the role and development of the visual arts in past and present cultures throughout the world. Students will have opportunities to also apply what they have learned across subject areas, making connections with major themes, concepts, and ideas to be found in the performing arts as well as in other academic subjects.

Structure:

A portfolio of 4 projects and a portfolio summary are due at the end of each quarter. Before progress reports 2 projects that are 75% completed are to be evaluated. A completed project can be evaluated for a grade at any time. If a project is graded before the portfolio deadline, it can be resubmitted for a grade change.

Required Materials: Art supplies (refer to handout)

Grading:	Art projects -	60%
	Mid-term/Final -	15%
	Class Participation -	25%

Expectations:

Instruction in the visual arts encompasses four components. Each component contains a body of knowledge and skills unique to art, and a complete and comprehensive art education includes all four components.

1. Artistic Perception - recognizing the visual structures and functions of art through observation, comprehension, application of composition and design principles.
2. Creative Expression - creation of original works of art involving interpretation of thoughts, perceptions, feelings, and ideas.
3. Historical and Cultural Context - study of art from a variety of cultures in order to develop understanding of arts and artists and their place within world cultures.
4. Aesthetic Valuing - examines the content and meaning of specific artworks and develops skills necessary to make informed judgments; students analyze and respond to their own artworks and to those of others in order to understand the feelings and ideas expressed by artists of many cultures, places, and times.

Projects:

- A. Completed projects (includes reflection writings): 20 projects and a written summary of your portfolio
- B. 2 major finals: End of first and second semester
- C. Participation: (work during and outside of class) *This includes cleaning-up your table area and putting away your art materials (washing paint brushes, art supplies in cabinets etc...)

Studio time is crucial for passing this course. Therefore, class participation and completion of class projects on time is a must if one is to receive a passing grade.

This course is based on a point system. Poor attendance, tardiness, lack of participation during class and respect will result in a deduction of points based on the category.

Late Work:

1. Late work due to an excused absence is made up without penalty. However, it is the responsibility of the student to inquire about the work missed during the absence.
2. Late work due to an unexcused absence MUST be made up. The final grade will be lowered by 10% for each class session it is late.