

**Advanced Placement Studio Art Syllabus
(Drawing Portfolio)**

Woodside High School

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Course Description:

This course is an Advanced Placement course in studio art in collaboration with the College Board's AP Program. Students enrolled in this course will develop a portfolio of artwork to submit to the College Board in the spring for possible college credit. It is a course that demands a commitment of the student's time and efforts. Students must be highly motivated and committed to the class.

This course is open to students who have successfully completed a two-year or more sequence in art AND have received the studio instructor's prior approval. The course is designed around the needs of the serious art student – that student with a genuine desire and ability to make quality art, and who, besides preparing the portfolio for the College Board, may be interested in preparing a portfolio to enter an art program at the college level.

The course will further develop the student's individual interests and needs in art in the production of the work for the portfolio. The student will select which art materials will be used, though they will be required to show ability in a breadth of materials. For the most part, students will develop their own projects around their own interests and experiences in art. Projects periodically assigned by the teacher will ensure introduction to and experience in areas considered to be key to enter a college art program.

Course work through the year will be centered around two distinct areas or sections of the portfolio – concentration and breadth, while always keeping quality work as the goal. The sections are designed to develop different aspects of student knowledge, creativity, and ability in the visual arts. The sections require the student to demonstrate quality in all work, variety in media and techniques, and in-depth engagement in the process of making art. At the end of the course, students will have a portfolio of quality artworks to present to the College Board.

Much of the work will be self-paced and therefore the student must be highly motivated. Generally, students will develop their own projects, which not only satisfy their own artistic needs and interests, but challenge them creatively, as well. These areas will be supported by classwork, and homework, in some or all of the following areas: writing, documentation, computer work, sketchbook composition and problem solving, and portfolio development.

The Drawing portfolio addresses issues such as line quality, light and shade, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation, the illusion of depth, and mark-making. Students' portfolios demonstrate skills and ideas developed, refined, and applied throughout the course to produce visual compositions. Portfolios are evaluated based on standardized scoring descriptors aligned with skills and understanding developed in college foundation courses.

AP Studio Art Content AP Studio Art students work with diverse media, styles, subjects, and content. Each of the three portfolios consists of three sections:

- *The Breadth section illustrates a range of ideas and approaches to art making.*
- *The Concentration section shows sustained, deep, and multi-perspective investigation of a student-selected topic.*
- *The Quality section represents the student's most successful works with respect to form and content. Works in this section may be selected from the other two sections.*

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/2182.html

Course Overview:

This course is flexible to accommodate individual needs and interests as the course progresses.

- Every 2 weeks the student will be responsible for the production of a quality artwork either assigned by the teacher or of the student's choice. Each artwork will satisfy either the concentration section or the breadth section of the course portfolio.
- Any artwork that makes use of photographs that are not your own, published images, and/or other artists' works must show substantial and significant change/development beyond copying/duplication of the image(s). Plagiarism of another person's work is not allowed in the class.
- Class critiques will take place regularly at the end of each project.
- Every other week students will do figure drawing and portraiture from life.
- Each semester, students will be responsible for a researched presentation on two artist--one dead and one living--whose work inspires their own. An outline will be provided by the teacher to help students gather information, organize it, and report it.

In addition to your Portfolio work you must do a significant piece of work which engages you directly with the REAL Art World. Some examples of this would be preparing a Portfolio for an Art College, organizing a show, submitting work for internships, do a commission, producing objects to be sold in stores or online. Artists have to develop the social skill-set that allows them to 'put their work out there', the personal strength of maintaining motivation when they are turned down, and learn how to make their work presentation ready.

Homework:

Students are required to maintain a sketchbook throughout the school year. This will be provided for you or you may use your own. Sketchbook work is intended to be as composition development and problem solving for artwork assignment, as well as place to explore ideas and style, and a place to do gesture drawings and other quick life-drawings outside the classroom. Sketches will support extended works either as drafts or a means of finding inspiration.

Research assignments dealing with artists, artistic style and technique, and cultural and social aspects of art will be due each semester as assigned.

Additional artworks not assigned may be done outside of class time but are not required. AP Art Studio students, however, must put in the extra 3 hours each week to complete the required number of artworks for the portfolio presentation.

Attendance and Tardy Policy:

Regular attendance in class is very important at this advanced level of art. The class is structured in a way that prepares the student for the college level, and the student is expected to take advantage of it. All time missed in class due to any absence must be made up outside of class time.

The Woodside High School tardy policy will be enforced. It is crucial to be on time, to take full advantage of the little time you have to work!

Teacher Availability:

I am available to students as much as possible. Students may use the classroom to work any lunchtime unless I have a meeting, and may make an appointment with me to work in the classroom at other times.

Grades:

Talent does not necessarily mean a good grade in this class. Regular participation in class work, assignments, and critiques are essential to a good grade. Effort to continually grow creatively and improve in art making, as well as challenging one's technical abilities are also essential. Grades are based on participation (work habits and co-operation), technical ability, and aesthetics. All of the assignments must be completed and receive a passing grade (60% or better) in order to pass this class. In addition, completion of the AP Portfolio is required to pass the class, though submission is not.
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Participation: (40% of the grade)

- .. Good attendance and promptness to class
- .. Use of the entire class period to make art work – 9 hours (+) evident in the work for each project.
- .. Daily participation and effort in class work and objectives, and in class discussions and critiques
- .. Attentiveness to directions, instructions, demonstrations, and critiques
- .. Appropriate and respectful behavior in class
- .. Safe use of and care for all materials and tools
- .. Performing daily clean-up duties and responsibilities
- .. Sketchbooks and assignments completed as directed
- .. Observation and use of school rules and policies

Technical Ability: (20% of the grade)

- .. Neatness of presentation in art (no unintentional smears, drips, rips or tears, dog-eared corners, etc.)
- .. Each non-digital 2 dimensional artwork should be either mounted--with or without a border
- .. Application of specific skills and techniques that demonstrate the elements of drawing
- .. Proper documentation, identification, and file-management of your works

Expression, Creativity, Aesthetics, Self-Challenge: (20% of the grade)

- .. Use of your own creativity – no copies of another's work
- .. Use of your own ideas and imagination in the application of specific techniques, skills, and objects
- .. Creation of visually interesting, appealing, or compelling artworks

Application of the Elements of Art and Principles of Design: (20% of the grade)

- .. Creative integration of the Elements of Art using the Principles of Design.
- .. Well-developed composition using the Principles of Design and Composition Devices

AP Art Studio Course Syllabus

Semester I

The first 10 to 12 assignments in the semester are intended to help each student decide on and develop a Concentration for their portfolio. You do not have to do the artworks in the order listed below, but they must all be done within the semester. Any work from the list that does not fit into the Concentration section will be acceptable as part of the Breadth section. All work must be done with the Quality Section in mind for the Portfolio, showing quality effort and time use. Maintain a list of all artworks on the provided Concentration and Artwork Inventory Sheet as you complete each artwork. At the end of the year you must have 10 to 12 Concentration artworks and 12 Breadth artworks for submission to the College Board and for your grade in class.

1. AP Summer Assignment – Turned in the second day of class.
2. Think Sheet Series and Concentration Development – Homework Assignment due at the end of Month 1. Develop a concentration or theme for your portfolio for the entire school year by answering the questions on these Think Sheets and by observing example concentrations and concentration statements.
3. Portrait in style and medium of students' choice. Square format between 6"X6" to 10"X10".
4. The Human Figure with correct proportions of the body and facial features, and in an interesting and complete composition utilizing the negative space to support the figure. The work can be done in any choice of medium/media and style as long as proportions are accurate. Use sighting techniques, proportion and placement guidelines, and other techniques for accuracy in proportions.
5. Night Study- Draw a scene, from life, that uses candlelight as a light source. Check with me if you have an alternative light source in mind.
6. Architectural Study – A realistic drawing of an Architectural Structure, with correct scale, proportions, and values. Media choices: pencil, ink, watercolors.

7. Concentration Project – student’s choice. Refer to your Think Sheets and Concentration Statement. Turn in updated Artwork Inventory Sheet with the artwork and its project form.
8. Breadth Project – student’s choice. Create an artwork that is not related to your concentration but is still within your chosen portfolio type. Use any medium and technique that you like to create Quality work.
9. Imagination, Fantasy, or Surrealism Project – Create an artwork outside of your concentration that is unique and imaginative. Your choice of medium and technique, but still within your chosen portfolio type. Refer to Surrealist artists and others known for imaginative and expressive works (such as Dali, Magritte, Kahlo, Duchamp, etc...)
10. Direct Observational Drawing/Artwork – Create an artwork within or outside of your concentration that is from direct observation of an object or still life. Do not use photographs – look at the real thing as you work and make it as realistic as possible (depth and space, values, proportions, etc.)
11. Student’s Choice Project - Even out the number of Breadth and Concentration projects for you portfolio with this project (or at least get them closer to matching up). If you have more breadth projects at this date, create one for your concentration and vice versa. Keep all work within your portfolio type.
12. Student’s Choice Project – Even out the number of Breadth and Concentration projects for you portfolio with this project (or at least get them closer to matching up). If you have more breadth projects at this date, create one for your concentration and vice versa. Keep all work within your portfolio type.
13. Landscape- From observation, draw or paint a landscape. You may use any material of your choosing.
14. Student’s Choice Project – Even out the number of Breadth and Concentration projects for you portfolio with this project (or at least get them closer to matching up). If you have more breadth projects at this date, create one for your concentration and vice versa. Keep all work within your portfolio type.

Semester Final Critique – Critique “Best Work” from this semester: Why is it your best?
Semester II

1. Social / Political Statement Project – Take on a social issue or political issue to create an interesting and convincing visual statement.
2. Concentration Project – An artwork to address your concentration.
3. AP Student’s Choice Project – Due at same time as #1 above. Continue to even out the number of Breadth and Concentration projects for you portfolio with this project.
4. Concentration Project – An artwork to address your concentration.
5. Concentration Project – An artwork to address your concentration.
6. AP Portfolio Intention Form – Fill out the supplied form acknowledging your intentions regarding submitting a portfolio to the College Board, and whether you will be taking slides of your works with the teacher or having slides made by a professional.
7. Self-Portrait Project – Your choice of style, medium and techniques to fit your portfolio type. This will most likely be a Breadth project.
8. Breadth Project – Develop your own project that investigates subject matter / content, style, medium and techniques different from those in your Concentration and other works for your Breadth Section of the portfolio.
9. Concentration Project – An artwork to address your concentration.
10. Concentration or Breadth Project – Balance your portfolio.
11. Concentration or Breadth Project – An artwork to balance your portfolio.
12. Concentration or Breadth Project – An artwork to balance your portfolio.
13. Semester II Final Critique

More Artworks may be completed by the student beyond those above. This is a minimum amount required to present your portfolio at the end of the school year and for the class grade. I encourage you to produce as much work as you can throughout the year, but keep it all quality work that is well-planned and visually interesting.