

# AP Studio Art 2D Design- Photography

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Prerequisite: Photo Principles, Photo II and/or Digital II, consent of instructor

Grade Level: 10-12

Course Description: Advanced Placement Studio Photography is a year-long experience which gives you the opportunity to create a college level portfolio. This class is for students interested in furthering their knowledge of photography.

AP Photography requires a willingness to explore different techniques and ideas. ***This class requires outside work.*** Throughout the year different portions of the portfolio will be critiqued by your fellow photographers, and possibly by other professionals and members of the community.

You will be required to complete a portfolio of approximately 30 pieces of work. This course prepares you for the AP exam (submission of your portfolio).

## **2D Design Portfolios**

The AP Studio Art Portfolio consists of three distinct sections: **Quality**, **Concentration** and **Breadth**. For ALL of your work in AP, every piece must be **completely original**. You will be submitting Concentration and Breadth digitally and Quality prints.

**QUALITY** requires students to send in five (5) original pieces that show their best work. These pieces should reflect the highest level of quality as defined by the AP Quality Rubric which we will use to assess each project. These five 12 x 18 pieces will have to be printed and turned in with a provided portfolio. You will be printing additional copies of each print for the District and Wilsonville art shows. These should reflect your very best quality in composition, execution, style and concept.

### **6=EXCELLENT**

- is consistently of high quality, although not all pieces will necessarily be at precisely the same level of expertise;
- shows an imaginative, inventive, and confident articulation of the principles of design;
- shows accomplished use of the elements of design guided by the principles;
- shows a well-informed sense of composition;
- shows obvious evidence of thinking;
- demonstrates evidence of confidence and of verve;
- addresses fairly complex visual and/or conceptual ideas;
- uses materials effectively; technique is generally excellent;
- may show successful engagement with experimentation and/or risk-taking;
- may be notable for sensitivity and/or subtlety;
- demonstrates informed decision-making.
- Any apparent use of published or photographic sources or the work of other artists clearly provides a visual reference in the service of a larger, personal vision.

## **5=STRONG QUALITY**

- is generally strong, although there may be inconsistencies in overall quality;
- demonstrates a strong grasp of the elements and principles of design, using them to express a visual idea;
- shows generally strong composition;
- shows effective manipulation of the elements of design within the work as a whole;
- shows evidence of thinking; i.e., it conveys a sense that it is about something;
- is fairly confident;
- may have evocative qualities;
- successfully engages with most aspects of technique and materials.
- Any apparent use of published or photographic sources or the work of other artists shows a strong sense of the student's individual transformation of the images.

**CONCENTRATION** is chosen by the student and should be a concept that is broad enough to sustain throughout the twelve pieces, yet is condensed enough to hold together in concept so that the viewer recognizes the connection and continuity between pieces. The Concentration should be about a visual problem and concept which the student is sufficiently passionate about to sustain interest over the year. It should grow through a coherent plan of investigation around a specific idea.

It is a minimum of 12 pieces that demonstrate:

- The unifying idea for the portfolio
- A focus on making decisions about how to use the principles and elements of design to create works of art that convey meaning
- Looking at meaning both literally and in the abstract
- Deliberate manipulation of the visual tools (including using Photoshop)
- Student design and research, with instructor oversight, of the individual assignments that support the student AP portfolio.

## **6=EXCELLENT**

- There is an unmistakable connection between the idea of the concentration and the work presented.
- The concentration engages the viewer with the work and the idea.
- The work shows effective integration of concept and design skills.
- Technical aspects are strong to excellent.
- The work shows informed risk-taking and development beyond technical concerns.
- An evocative theme is carried out.
- The work demonstrates an original vision.
- Overall, the work is of excellent quality.

## **5=STRONG**

- The work and the concentration topic have a close relationship.
- The idea of the concentration is good to strong.
- There is evidence of thought in the work.
- The work is technically competent; skill is evident.
- There is evidence of effective pursuit of the idea.
- There may be some less successful pieces, but overall the work shows a strong grasp of design principles.
- The work shows a sense of transformation over time, although it may not be totally successful.
- An evocative theme is investigated.
- Overall, the work is of strong quality.

**BREADTH** requires twelve (12) original pieces and is intended to show that students are well versed in a variety of techniques, media and artistic styles. Work submitted in this section may be submitted for the Quality section, but may NOT be submitted for the Concentration section.

The Breadth section also focuses on student's knowledge of appropriate and intelligent use of the elements and principles of design **Principles and Elements of Design:**

- Shape/Form
- Line
- Color
- Space
- Texture
- Balance
- Proportion
- Repetition
- Contrast
- Variety
- Movement
- Rhythm
- Emphasis
- Rule of Thirds
- Close up
- Leading Lines
- Triangles

#### **6=EXCELLENT**

- The work demonstrates serious, successful engagement with a broad range of design problems.
- The work demonstrates confident articulation of the principles of design.
- The work uses the elements and principles of design in inventive or evocative ways.
- Most work demonstrates successful experimentation, risk-taking, and/or ambition.
- The work is technically accomplished.
- The work addresses sophisticated/complex ideas with confidence and verve.
- Form and content are synthesized to communicate visual ideas.
- Overall, the work is of excellent quality.

#### **5=STRONG**

- The work demonstrates engagement with a broad range of design problems.
- The work demonstrates successful articulation of the principles of design.
- The work may demonstrate successful experimentation and/or risk-taking.
- The use of materials is appropriate to the problems addressed, and technique is generally strong.
- The work addresses sophisticated and/or complex ideas with some success.
- The work shows clear decision-making.
- The link between form and content is strong.
- Overall, the quality of the work is strong.

#### **Summer Work:**

Next spring, you'll be submitting your portfolio to the AP board to be evaluated. This is a difficult task if you haven't been taking photos over the summer and begun exploring ideas. With that in mind, I'm going to give

you some summer assignments, which we will then look at in the fall when school begins. As with other AP classes, the assumption is that if you are serious about the AP program, you will accomplish these tasks *in order to participate in the AP studio art program in the fall*.

#### OVER THE SUMMER:

1. Work on completing the Breadth Section of your portfolio. Remember: you will need 12 photos to example your growth as a photographer. These photos can even be from Photo Principles (to show where you started).
2. Solidify your concentration idea. What are you going to focus on? Is there a certain look you are going for? Plan what you are going to need, what you will do, and your shooting schedule.
3. Every other week over the summer you will be required to post a photo you have taken on the AP Photography Facebook page. Your peers will then give you feedback on the photo. You are required to give feedback as well.
4. On the alternate week, you are required to post an idea, a link to a website, a photo, or Photoshop idea that will strengthen or deepen our photography.
5. For the Concentration Section, you will come up with a concept, or an idea which you can work with and grow with. You will be asked to respond to the following questions to explain your concentration:
  - Briefly define the nature of your concentration project.
  - Briefly describe the development of your concentration and the sources of your ideas. You may refer to specific slides as examples.
  - What medium or media did you use? For digital art, specify the program(s) and how you used it/them.

Where to come up with specific ideas for concentrations? Remember, **everything you do must be 100% original**. LOOK AROUND you, NOTICE EVERYTHING. Think about what excites you visually, as the artist you are and you are becoming. HAVE FUN with this! Keep an idea book/Pinterest/Flickr/Facebook or whatever works for you to keep track of ideas as you would a scrapbook, sketchbook or notebook. Think about what has shaped you; what matters to you. Be ready to share your ideas about what you might want to do for a concentration when we return in September!

I'll be checking e-mail over the summer, so feel free to e-mail me!

#### Artistic Integrity:

*Keep in mind that ALL of your work is to be original. Replicating images from any other artist or photographer is plagiarism. You may take your own photographs, but it is much better to work from life or your imagination. If you must look at published photos for reference, your resulting work must be processed through your own visual vocabulary and the reference photos should not be able to be identified through looking at your finished work. With the exception of breadth, none of your photos should be from past work.*

#### Helpful websites:

Scoring information: <http://sigapart.wikispaces.com/AP+Studio+Art+2D+Design+Scoring+Rubric>

Digital and print submission:

[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers\\_corner/201195.html](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers_corner/201195.html)

Scholastic Art Awards: <http://www.artandwriting.org/the-awards/how-to-submit/categories/#Photography>