

## **AP Studio Art Syllabus: Drawing Portfolio**

To accommodate all art students, AP art students will share a classroom with another visual arts class. It is very advantageous to art students in the lower level course, because they receive a preview of the expectations, ideas and techniques provided in the AP instruction. AP students give the lower level students new goals to achieve. AP students must work independently, have a basic knowledge of media, take risks and develop original subject matter. Please set a good example for the other art students in the class, and remember they are learning from you, and how you create art.

### **Course Description:**

AP Studio Art has been developed to accommodate serious art students who have expressed an interest in completing the AP Drawing Portfolio. Students are expected to assemble a body of artwork that demonstrates a high level of quality and growth through content, technique, and process. Students will investigate all three parts of their portfolios as required by AP College Board: Quality, Concentration, and Breadth. All work will be documented throughout the year using digital photos. Students will be expected to keep a journal or sketchbook to document original thought. Critiques and feedback will happen on a daily basis. However, a group critique where everyone is expected to participate will be held bi-weekly. During this critique, everyone is expected to give feedback to the peers in the class. This is a great way to learn how to set goals and keep producing art in a timely fashion. Each student enrolled in AP should have a different piece that they are working on every two weeks-even if the previous piece is considered unfinished to the artist.

### **Quality**

The quality section of the portfolio will consist of 5 pieces of work that are chosen from breadth or concentration and sent to the AP Board for judging. These 5 pieces will physically be sent in. It is important for weight and mailing issues that paintings are done on flat surfaces without edges. Drawings must be matted or protected. Work will need to be finished and reflect the students' most successful work.

**Concentration**

The concentration section of the portfolio will consist of 12 high quality artworks that clearly demonstrate an investigation of a theme or idea. The concentration section must show growth and discovery. In all three portfolios, digital images will be submitted to document this process of discovery. Please take photos of work along the way. The photos will be uploaded to the College Board website. Concentration should be evident when looking at the work. Avoid broad themes or ideas.

**Breadth**

The breadth section of the portfolios will consist of 12 artworks that show a variety of media, technique, and approaches to drawing. Students should have a good awareness of principles of design and how they are implemented in their work. Units of study will help students achieve these goals.

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will understand the requirements of the AP Studio Art portfolios
- Research artists, art periods, cultures and movements to further their discovery or interest in a subject
- Complete artwork in a timely fashion. Never spend too long on one piece you will run the risk of not completing enough pieces or slacking on quality of work at the end to meet time restraints
- Select five outstanding works for the quality section
- Photograph your own artistic process
- Keep a journal or sketchbook for recording ideas and making notes
- Keep up with all assignments, critiques, and participation

**Artistic Integrity:**

Students are expected to use artistic integrity throughout the course. When published photographs or the works of other artists are used students must move way beyond duplication to illustrate completely original ideas. Use your own devices to document things you find interesting or beautiful. Take photographs, sketch, or take notes on something that you saw or experienced. This could all be used for inspiration in later pieces.

## **Assessment and Evaluation**

Students will work independently on their artwork. Some assignments will be given, but students will be asked to journal and investigate independently to enhance their artistic knowledge and process. Students will be required to self-assess using a rubric and bi-weekly critiques will be conducted. Students should expect to have a new piece started every two weeks. It is important to take risks and try things. Participation and independence on the student's part is a very valuable part of AP success.

## **Requirements**

- Weekly journal, sketchbook, idea check
- Progress everyday
- Bi-weekly critique
- Artwork continues to grow and show progress
- Student works independently

## **Characteristics of Drawing**

**Line Quality**

**Light and Shade**

**Rendering of Form**

**Composition**

**Surface Manipulation**

**The Illusion of Depth**

**Mark Making**

## **Assignments**

**All Media is based on your choice, however you must use at least 3 different mediums by the time the assignments are completed.**

1. Drawing from observation. Choose an object, draw it realistically, then start a new drawing on a separate sheet of paper. In this drawing, the object should transform or take on a new form. The final drawing should be an abstract composition inspired by the

- object you chose. Refer to principles of design when setting up your composition. (3) drawings total
2. Drawing portraits from life. You must draw another classmate's portrait
  3. Self-portrait with background. Must draw a self-portrait and incorporate other elements within the piece such as a background, pattern, etc.
  4. Choose an experience that is vivid in your memory and draw or paint from that experience.
  5. Create a scene from your everyday life. May be your house, land, family, school, sport you play, etc. Could be objects that you see everyday, people, or elements in nature. Think about the things and places that are meaningful to you.

All other ideas will need to be originated by you. We will have featured artists and movements in history to research. However a mature investigation and the ability to make artistic choices and decisions is a very important part of this course. This process will help you to self-assess and reflect. That process is a crucial part in being an artist. There are no mistakes! Everything we do teaches us something. Always move forward.

### **Requirements, assignments, and portfolio development (75 percent)**

- **Finish work by set deadlines**
- **Growth is evident and work is always evolving**
- **Quality, subject matter, and use of media will be taken into consideration for final grades**

### **Class Conduct (25 percent)**

- **Regular class attendance is mandatory**
- **Use of in-class /out of class time**
- **Attention to detail**
- **Participation in critical discussion**
- **Safe and proper use of materials (especially oil painters)**
- **You are responsible for stored work (do not leave your work out where others could set something on it, spill something on it, etc. ) I will do my best to provide adequate storage space for you. Please use your assigned place.**

**24 pieces will need to be completed for AP submission, but more will need to be completed for the course so that you may have options for selection, this will allow you the choice in selecting your stronger work. Always be creating!**

## **Supplies**

You may want to invest in some personal supplies-what the school has available may be limited to your needs. Please bring in any outside materials that would benefit you. Always have a pencil and or your journal, sketchbook, or other personal device for inspiring ideas and investigation. Other materials suggested for purchase:

Watercolor paper  
Paint  
Paintbrushes  
Thin flat canvas panels  
Drawing pencils

Available at Wal-Mart, Michaels, Hobby Lobby, or online

AP Central  
[apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com)

Some of the selected vocabulary should be evident with every piece. Please use this to check yourself.

## **Rubric and Self –Assessment Checklist:**

- **I have art that shows:**
- **Depth**
- **Linear perspective**
- **Other perspectives**
- **Varied composition**
- **Shadows**
- **Value**
- **An interesting subject**

### **Subject Exploration:**

- **Human figure**
- **Self-Portrait**
- **Landscapes and or natural elements**
- **Still-life objects**
- **Architecture**
- **Other subjects**
- **Distinct foreground, middle ground, and background**
- **Original subjects and ideas**

### **Generated Ideas and Inspiration**

**I have ideas that come from:**

- **Observation**
- **Social Commentary**
- **Expression**
- **Emotional Ideas**
- **Imagination**
- **Personal interests**
- **Personal experiences**