

Advanced Placement Art – Summer Work 2-D Portfolio

Summer Work for Participants

Each student participating in an AP Studio Art Course is required to complete artwork over the summer months immediately prior to beginning the AP course. The purpose of the summer assignment is to show your commitment to advanced art studies. If you work consistently and put thought into each piece, you would have a college level portfolio at the end of the school year. The following requirements are to be met. Each piece will be graded.

1. Complete 4 works of art (One Theme Required for all four)

- Choose one THEME to explore. Each artwork should reference this same theme. **The pieces do not need to look like they go together.**
- Your work must be no smaller than 8x10 inches and no larger than 18x24 inches.
- Do not copy photographs. You may use them for reference only. Draw, paint or collage from observation and your imagination.
- Drawings/Artwork should show your knowledge in developing a “balanced composition” not just objects floating in the middle of the page. (See Principles/Elements)
- Required artworks may be in black and white or color but **MUST SHOW TECHNICAL SKILL.**

2. Complete 4 EXPERIMENTAL WORKS (Not traditional drawing or painting.)

You can experiment with many different media (painting, photography, spray paint, dirt, collage, etc). Play, fun and experimentation are required with these four pieces! You must choose materials that are unfamiliar to you. I will be grading these particular projects on how much RISK you took to push yourself out of your comfort zone. No size limitation.

3. More than 8 works are often submitted. You should hand in ALL projects/ sketches even if you think they are unsuccessful.

These projects are due complete during orientation week in September. If they are not completed you will not be able to participate in this program.

We will stay connected through the summer. As you complete work, or if you want feedback on any work please email it to me. Have a great summer – Don’t hesitate to call or email me if you have any questions!

Ms Tester

860-350-1415 (home)

ktester@cbury.org

AP Project Suggestions

The following projects can be used for the Drawing, 2-D or 3-D AP requirements.

1. Work done from a still life, objects, a figure, landscapes, groups of people
2. Demonstrating an understanding of perspective
3. Contour Drawings and/or Gesture Drawings
4. Studies of everyday or exotic objects, feet, clothing, natural objects such as twigs, animal skulls, shells, as well as rope knots, pencil sharpeners, weapons, tools, clock parts, etc
5. Geometric forms in different spatial positions
6. Positive-negative relationships between objects
7. Psychological interpretations
8. Using line and texture to create an illusion of space or as a way to negate space when working three dimensionally.
9. Collage/montage techniques
10. Works utilizing different art movements such as:
 - Cubism – shifting planes
 - Abstraction – simplification of an idea or form into an experiential method
 - OP Art – creating an illusion to fool the eye
 - Etc
11. Creating a composition using the shadows of objects
12. A cross section of an object, enlarged to create an abstraction
13. Transformation of an object
14. Cross-contour surface of various objects or imaginary forms
15. Interpreting dreams or fantasies
16. Illustrating personal experiences and healing through your work
17. ?? Other ideas??

Materials

You may use a variety of materials for your work. The art department can supply you with reasonable materials through the art department budget.

If you are interested in investigating a new form of art making we encourage you to take a course with a qualified teacher during the summer to gain important basic knowledge that you can build on throughout the school year.

AP Goals, Expectations and Grading

You are in this course because you have proven that you are skilled and capable of working on an advanced level. You are self-motivated, hardworking and open to learning. If you work consistently, with a spirit of curiosity, and you are on time with all your work then you will be ready to begin thinking and performing on a college level.

The goal of this course is to help you fulfill the AP portfolio requirements. More importantly, however, it is meant to stretch your imagination, improve your skills, and give you insight into your own artistic journey. For AP students by the end of this fall semester you will have completed the “Breadth” section of the portfolio: 12 pieces (8 for 3D). In the second semester you will work on an area of your choosing. This is called the “Concentration”: 12 pieces. In this section you will be choosing a particular theme to investigate in your own way. At the end of the school year we will choose 5 original works to send with your slides and essay. These pieces must show “Quality” in execution (technical skill, composition, intent and craftsmanship).

In order to accomplish our goals, you must hand in one completed project per week. On the "DUE" day, we will all join in sharing our discoveries and insights. You will also participate in giving and receiving helpful criticism, known as critiques. Realize that due to time constraints, most of your artwork will be done during your free time.

When you are in class, ask me to clarify any questions you might have. Or, if you need feedback, please ask. Come to each class prepared to work, with a plan of action. Always bring your sketchbook and art supplies. Make sure you allow 5 minutes for clean up, and another 5 minutes for getting to your next class. Please put ALL work in your assigned drawers.

Another goal of the course is to get you to speak intelligently about your art and that of your peers. In May you must submit, along with your portfolio, a written statement. It must express your intent, your process and your discoveries about your independent project, “The Concentration”. For this reason, when you are all together, you will participate in peer Critiques. As a guide to help us through this discussion we will use the Art Criticism handout which also contains the Principles of Art and Elements of Design.

GRADING

- Quality of craftsmanship, understanding and manipulation of technique
- Quality of aesthetic solutions - thoughtful and intentional use of the elements of design
- Innovative visual solutions – avoidance of cliché, working towards an individual voice and statement in visual media
- Timely completion of work
- Research and experimentation in development of ideas
- Consistent, dedicated effort

Art Criticism

In order to successfully critique a work of art, follow the procedure below.

1. Description – Make a list or note all of the things you see in the artwork.
2. Analysis – Discover how the work is organized. Apply the Principles of Art and the Elements of Design to the artwork. (See below)
3. Interpretation – Discover the meaning, mood or idea in the artwork.
4. Judgment – What is your opinion based on all the above?

Principles of Art / Elements of Design

All art students in all courses are expected to know and put into practice the principles of art and elements of design. By using these terms you will enhance your ability to discuss art and help clarify your position during critiques. Keep this list as a reference. Write in the definitions and draw an example to assist your memory. We will refer to these daily.

PRINCIPLES OF ART = Unity

Balance
Emphasis
Harmony
Variety
Gradation
Movement
Rhythm
Proportion

ELEMENTS OF ART

Color
Value
Line
Texture
Shape/Form
Space