

Saint Mary's College High School
The Department of Visual and Performing Arts
Beginning Visual Arts (Section 1-2)

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Course Description: This a year long foundation art course in drawing, painting, sculpture and 3-D design and color class. In this class, students will be acquiring skills, exploring, various art media and producing original works of art. Emphasis is placed on fundamentals to sharpen seeing skill and use of media and materials. In addition to this, students will be discussing various artists and periods in art history and relating it to their own work. There will be a writing component and a sketchbook component.

Students will have the opportunities to formulate and solve problems: critique and interpret their work, work of their peers and professionals. Students will have the opportunity to work in teams. The emphasis will be placed upon the exploration of imagination and appreciation for self and others through art.

The “Big Ideas” of this course:

Expression- Art is communication

Community: Belonging/Frustrations/Solitude/Rites of Passage

Culture: Cultural Icons

Power: Evil/Good

Change

Perspective: Point of View

Key Concepts

What is art? Why do we make art? How does art fit into your life?

How do we use art to express our thoughts, ideas and feelings?

What are the elements and principles of art?

What are some approaches to studying art and why approach it that way?

How can art help create community?

How is art powerful?

How do we make art that is meaningful?

Why does society value art?

How does society interpret what it values with art?

How does art express culture?

What is beauty? How does culture play an important role in the way we view beauty?

How do you perceive the world around you?

How can art be used for social justice?

Goals and Objectives

- To experience a variety of art making techniques
- To increase awareness and appreciation for how and why art is made
- To develop a visual vocabulary
- To learn how to evaluate and construct meaning from art
- To explore personal and societal needs for expression
- To learn respect for yourself and others

Methods of learning

- Creation of original art work
- Viewing of master art works/Studies of master artworks
- Looking at art from many cultures
- Looking at art from different time periods
- Portfolio review with teacher
- Self evaluations
- Peer evaluations
- Assigned reading in textbook and other outside sources
- Writing commentary and critiques of art

Materials

Art Pencil set or Ebony Pencil

Magic rub or Pink Pearl Easer

9 x 12 Spiral Bound or Hardcover Sketchbook

Notebook/or section in a binder for art questions/homework

Personal pencil sharpener

Other materials to complete project may be necessary

Text

Themes and Foundations of Art by Katz, Lankford and Plank

*This text is used for visual reference, thematic readings and historical information. Other outside reading and source materials will also be used. Visual art projects, quizzes and tests will be based upon reading material and assignments from this book and other assigned materials in class.

Evaluation/Grading

50 % Students' art works are evaluated on **technical skills** (25 %) and **artistic expression** (25%). These areas are broken down into the following sections:

Composition
Craftsmanship
Creativity
Challenge

10 % Skill building assignments
Sketchbook work

10 % Evaluations

20 % Content Knowledge (quizzes and written materials)

10 % of the overall grade Final exam

Active participation in class is expected

Extra Credit

Extra credit is not an option in class but students can resubmit major artworks that have been reworked and demonstrate a higher skill level or a visual concept that has been developed at a higher level. The resubmitted work will replace the old grade without penalty but will be marked with “late” or resubmitted in the grade book. Grades reflect students work and knowledge in class not their effort, attendance or attitude. All reworked assignments must be resubmitted in a timely manner. The due date for reworked assignments will be determined, by the teacher and student in verbal or written form and generally is a week. Art assignments have due-date windows but should be completed by the class critique time frame. Submission of completed artworks should be within the week of the class critique. There may not be time in class to continue to work on old assignments.

A-Student has demonstrated **mastery above and beyond** assigned tasks

B-Student has demonstrated an **excellent grasp** of concepts and materials

C-Students has demonstrated a **good fundamental** understanding of materials

D-Student shows **limited understanding** or motivation in work

F- Student is **non-productive** in completion of tasks and expectations

M- **used for missing assignments**

Redoing Work/Late Projects/Assignments

Students who wish to receive a higher grade for an assignment may redo an assignment or rework the assignment for a better grade. Inform the teacher at break, after school or via e-mail if you wish to redo the assignment. You have 2 weeks after the assignment has been returned to you to rework or redo the assignment for a better grade. After the two week period there will be no extensions or opportunity to redo an assignment.

Homework

There will be homework in the art class. The homework is used to help students understand key concepts and ideas which relate to in-class assignments and projects. The homework will be collected and checked off but it will not be graded. Homework is excellent practice for content knowledge evaluation.

In the classroom there is a wall folder that will have copies of homework assignments for students. If a student is absent for any reason, the student may get a copy of the homework assignment from the wall folder or use the library copy of the textbook to copy the assignment from the book.

Methods of Assessment/Evaluation:

Students will be assessed in a variety of ways, including peer/teacher/student self-assessment on artworks as well as looking at their practice sketchbook progress considering the growth and commitment to progress and practice of the their art. There will be multiple choice and free-response quizzes and exams, visual recognition of master artworks, in class discussion and critiques on student work and master artworks, there are some short paragraph-length essays, formal critical writing as well as group and individual oral presentations.

Additional Time for Work

Extra art time is available after school and lunch-time to continue working on art pieces as needed by students

As a studio art class the expectation is that students will actively participate in class creating their own individual artwork.

Parents can check up on student's progress in class in through *Power School*, telephone, and/or email. Parents may contact me at my email address, njaeger@stmchs.org. I check my e-mail daily and I will respond promptly. Parents may also check the website to see what students are working on in class.

Absences

If a student is absent because of athletics or different pre-arranged reason, work that was missed for that absence is due on the date of your return. If you are absent because of illness, work is due within two of your scheduled class periods.

Please check the website for the content of the day's lesson and get notes and or information from your classmates.

Academic and Artistic Integrity

Written assignments should be entirely the students' own work. Original artworks are expected to demonstrate the students' own thinking and skill and are expected to be the students' own work. Taking images/artwork from the Internet or other sources constitutes plagiarism. Work taken from other sources must be changed 60% or more to be considered to demonstrate the students' own thinking.

Use of Electronic Media

No cell phone/blackberries/I-Phone use in class. (Unless prior permission is given by the teacher and it is used solely for art purposes) This includes using the cell phone to take photos in class. Computers in the classroom are for art classroom work only. They are not to be used to check personal e-mail accounts during class time. Proper netiquette is expected from students as outlined in the student handbook. The teacher reserves the right to revoke computer access in the class if the computers are being used inappropriately.

No personal grooming in class

No gum chewing

Course Outline:

Unit 1-What is art?

Unit 2- How is art valued?

Unit 3-Approaches to the Study of Art

Unit 4-The Goals of Art Criticism

Unit 5- Approaches to Art Criticism

Unit 6-A Critical Method

Unit 7-Extablisihing a visual vocabulary

Unit 8-Perspective: The Illusion of Depth

Sketchbook and Homework

Sketchbook is a component of this class. Students are expected to spend 45 minutes per week on their sketchbook. Students may work on in their sketchbooks in class if they are finished with their other class work in class. Sketchbooks are checked every two weeks and should reflect 1 ½ hours of dedicated time working in the sketchbook. This can be on an individual pieces or a series of pieces. Reading and written homework is given as part of this class as well. The time required to complete this varies for these assignments. The day's lessons are posted on my web page. Sketchbooks will be marked up to 10 points. If a student receives less than 10 points for their work they can continue to work on their sketchbook piece and resubmit it.

Homework assignments will receive pass/not pass. If reading homework is assigned to students they should be prepared to discuss the reading.

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement is highly encouraged. If a parent has an area of expertise in the field of art or resources please let the art department know about this. Help is sometimes needed with field trips, setting up art exhibits and in other areas.

Behavioral Expectations for the Art Classroom

Students are expected to treat each other with tact and respect at all times. They will exhibit personal and academic integrity. Attendance and punctuality in class are important.

1. Bring your materials/books/project and sketchbook to class as required.
2. Be ready to work when the bell rings or the beginning of class
 - a. Be seated and ready to listen to directions
 - b. Do not touch materials that may be out in the classroom until directions are given.
3. Respect other people, their property and community property
 - a. Raise your hand if you have a question or comment
 - b. Treat your classmates and teacher with kindness and respect
 - c. Do not write on, mark or damage the art room furniture
 - d. Do not write on, handle or destroy other people's artwork

4. Use of art materials
 - a. Art materials stay in the art classroom
 - b. Materials in the room are for the art assignment. Do not ask for materials for your other classes.
 - c. Do not waste the art materials. If you make a mistake turn it into an opportunity for creativity!
 - d. Recycle!
5. Expected classroom behavior
 - a. No gum, computer games, card games, cell phone use, cell phone photography, dice during class time
 - b. Not eating in the art classroom
 - c. Do not wear hats or sunglasses in the classroom
 - d. The art classroom is not a place to do your personal grooming. Do not put on your makeup, brush your hair put on perfume or hairspray in class. Please use the bathroom for these activities.
 - e. Do not dress or undress in the classroom
 - f. No swearing or teasing in class. Use appropriate school language.
 - g. Keep you hands, feet and objects to yourself.
 - h. Use your five minute passing period to use the bathroom. This is not the bathroom class!
 - i. The computers are only for art work/research. Not for checking your 3-mail, games, Myspace , Facebook or other activities.
6. End of Class behavior
 - a. Everyone helps to clean the classroom. No exceptions. Make this a nice place to work.
 - b. Please sit down in your seat at the end of class for final directions and end of class wrap up. Please wait to be excused. I check the classroom at the end of each class.
 - c.
7. Homework/in class work
 - a. If you are absent, you are responsible for the information/assignment that you have missed. Check the website or call a “study buddy” for the days work!

Art Class Character Rules/Ethics

1. Be trustworthy
2. Be truthful
3. Be a good listener
4. Be respectful
5. Be kind and caring
6. Be your best

Some positive rewards:

1. Daily Praise
2. Positive notes/e-mail/phone calls
3. Art prizes

Consequences:

1st offense-Warning

2nd offense-Classroom detention

3rd offense-Assistant Vice Principal/detention/phone call home

Severe disruptions will result in immediate referral to Assistant Vice Principal!

Tear off here

Art classroom Student Behavioral Expectations/Rules and Ethics

*Dear Parent and students,
I look forward to working with your teenager this year in art class. Thank you for reading the art classroom student expectations/rules with your teen. Please sign the contract below and return this to me with in five days or sooner.*

*Sincerely,
Numo Jaeger
Fine Arts Teacher*

I have read the art room student expectations and rules and will follow them.

Student printed name _____

Student signature _____

Parent signature _____