

AP STUDIO ART: 2D Design & Drawing Portfolios

2016-2017

Dear Parents (and Students):

Your student has elected to enroll in AP Studio Art at Wooster High School, with me... Mrs. Tricia Taggart! This is a chance for the visually gifted to excel and receive recognition on a national scale, if they so choose. It allows students to compare their work with other high school students throughout the nation, and helps them prepare an excellent portfolio for study at the college level.

Content of the class

The class has three parts, as follows:

- Study of contemporary artists and trends. In addition to class work, students are expected to visit galleries and local art museums on their own.
- A sketchbook/journal **(please purchase an 11" x 14", a 9" x 12" will be provided when you begin class)** to be composed of visual ideas, notes, research, photos, doodles, poems, plans, reflections, short assignments, quick sketches, and practice of various techniques. (Many art schools like to see a student's sketchbook to see how their minds and creativity work.)
- The student's submitted portfolio (optional) for AP Drawing or AP 2D Design has three parts:

Quality (Original Works) – development of a sense of excellence

- Five **matted** works for Drawing or 2D Design
- These should be the student's BEST work, selected for excellence, and cannot be larger than 18" x 24" (total size)

Concentration –

This will include 12 digital images exploring a single visual concern in depth. It is something like a visual term paper, and is an important part of the class. When a subject is settled on, the student should spend considerable time developing it. It should show investigation, growth, and discovery involved with a compelling visual concept. The Concentration is usually completed in the second semester. (Up to three digital images could be close-ups to show details, but only if necessary.)

Breadth –

This is a set of works showing mastery of varied media, techniques, and subject matter.

Drawing and 2D Design portfolios require –

- 12 digital images of 12 different pieces.

Because a portfolio submission of 24-29 pieces is needed, each student will need to complete 8-10+ pieces of art each nine weeks, or roughly one to two works per week.

Students should work steadily and have the sufficient number of digital images by the end of the semester, as their grade in the course will be based on that work. They can then continue to improve their portfolio until the May submission date.

Homework:

Two hours per week or more is necessary to keep up. Some students will spend considerably more time than this, and some may be able to complete their work entirely in class. Students will also be encouraged to enter contests that are available throughout the year.

Grades:

Visual Art is subjective and frequently so individual and experimental that grading is difficult. Yet there are standards of quality in student work, expectations based on the range of accomplishments of previous artists, and the evidence of thought, care, and effort demonstrated in the work. All of these elements will be discussed with students, individually and in class critiques. All students in the class have talent and should receive an '**A**' if work that meets their 8-10+ pieces of artwork per 9 weeks is turned in on time. A '**B**' indicates deadlines are not being met or the student is not putting forth enough effort in the artwork. A '**C**' at the 4.5 or 9-week grade report indicates that the student is probably not ready to take the class at this time, and should consider a less-demanding class – perhaps taking the AP class the following year. Some students may not be ready for a college-level class.

Parents should be aware that class assignments might involve working from photocopies of paintings and drawings of classic nude figure studies that the students will interpret originally.

All work must be ORIGINAL! If students use someone else's work or image as a basis for their own pieces, there must be SIGNIFICANT alteration to the piece for it to be considered original!

Attendance:

Class participation and work time is a must, so attendance and punctuality are encouraged and *expected*. Too many absences will lead to removal from the course.

Parents wishing to give a gift to their artist, or students wishing to acquire some personal materials might consider:

- An Art Bin to organize supplies (like a fishing tackle box)
- A set of Prismacolor pencils, the 24- or 60-color set
- Pencils of varying hardness
- Charcoal pencils of varying hardness
- Vine and compressed charcoal
- Erasers – kneaded, Pink Pearl, "Magic" pickup

- Pastel set
- Oil Pastels
- X-acto blade
- Ebony pencil (great for strong darks)
- Blending stumps and chamois cloths
- Fixative (especially for charcoal, pastels and graphite drawings)

BE SURE TO ASK FOR STUDENT DISCOUNTS!....Thank you for your support of these future artists.

AP STUDIO ART: 2D DESIGN & DRAWING CONTRACT

The purpose of an AP class is to help students prepare for college. At the same time, it gives the student the opportunity to receive college credit or to place out of certain college courses, thus saving time and money. The class will be taught at a faster pace than the normal high school art course with higher-level skills, outside projects, readings, and gallery/exhibit visits expected. Because of the nature of the course, it is important that teacher, student, and parents agree to commit the time and energy needed to complete it successfully. There are set criteria for this class that must be met in order to receive AP credit for the semester.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Teacher: *I agree to help the students prepare for the AP portfolio by making new information and media available to them, teaching the students skills needed, assisting them with preparing their portfolio, helping them to evaluate their own portfolio ... and the work of others. I shall make parents aware of learning or progress problems that may arise so that by working together we may solve them.*

Student: *I am aware of the criteria for AP Studio Art: Drawing, and I agree to accept the responsibility for the preparation needed to complete the AP course. This includes:*

- Completion of portfolio works in a timely manner, **roughly one work per week**
- Matting five original works for the portfolio deadline of **May __, 2016**
(if choosing to submit to the College Board for AP credit)
- Agreeing to an **honor code of original work**

Parent: *I am aware of the criteria for AP Art, and I agree to help my child work to be successful in the AP course. I will help organize study time and encourage my child when the pressures of the course begin to build. I will communicate with the teacher any concerns about the course or any learning problems that need to be addressed. I understand that students will be reading college-level materials and dealing with issues and visual materials that may be controversial. I am aware that my child must pay a supply fee for the course, and may need additional supplies.*

Honor Code:

This course will be conducted under an honor code. All students will be expected to do their own work. At times students will be given projects or exams that must be completed outside of class. If a student breaks this code, it will give him or her an unfair academic advantage and will result in the student being removed from the course.

AP Course Credit:

Submission of an AP Studio Art Portfolio is mandatory for AP credit at the collegiate level, but if students choose to not submit a portfolio, HS credit is still earned.

Students who find they can't keep up with the course can be given an opportunity to withdraw at the discretion of the instructor, but will not receive credit. Students who are not seniors can arrange to submit their portfolio the following year with the agreement of the instructor pending portfolio submission.

This year portfolios will be due in early May 2016. (?) ...date uncertain at this time

Thank you for the chance to work with your students!

Mrs. Tricia L. Taggart

Drawing/2D Design Portfolio Requirements

SECTION I: QUALITY

- Five original works
- Flat works only
- Maximum size of 18" x 24" matted (including mat)
- Works smaller than 8" x 10" should be mounted on 8" x 10" sheets, or preferable 16" x 20"
- **Signatures should NOT appear on the work**
 - **Place name and date on BACK of work while completing**
- Protective covers or acetate should be used on delicate works that could smear, or a sturdy, opaque overleaf hinged to one edge of the backing so it may be lifted

- Films and videotapes may NOT be submitted in this section
- **Computer-generated works may be submitted in this section (2D ONLY)*

SECTION II: CONCENTRATION

- Mandatory number of digital images is 12
- Some images may be details (but try for only 3 or less)
- All works must be submitted in digital imagery form
- Research and growth should be in evidence
- **Works should show a single 2D design issue explored in depth (2D ONLY)*

SECTION III: BREADTH

- A mandatory number of 12 digital images is required in this section (12 different works)
- NO detail images
- Students must indicate the principle or problem it addresses
- **No more than 3 works focused on the same problem may be submitted**
- Work should exhibit a wide variety of techniques, stylistic characteristics, media, approaches, and subject matter
- Films and videotapes may NOT be submitted in this section

****2D Portfolio requirements (all other requirements are the same for both portfolios)***

Keep the above information to refer to when questions arise!

Please sign below to indicate your understanding, and that of your parents/guardians, of the AP Studio Art requirements for the 2015-2016 school year. Return this section by August 23, 2015 please!

Student name (print) _____

Student signature _____ date _____

Parent signature _____ date _____

SUMMER AP STUDIO ART Assignments

Mrs. Tricia L. Taggart: Wooster High School

Assignment: You will complete a minimum of 5 projects, which will include **ONE museum visit over the summer as your AP Studio Art-Drawing/2D preparation** (Gather paperwork, handouts, sketches, notes, etc. to hand in). These assignments will be due the first day of class in August and you will receive a major grade for your summer assignments! If you have found that you could not make the time for these assignments, then it is recommended that you drop the course either over the summer or as soon as you return to school. AP Studio Art requires a significant amount of time outside of class to meet the rigorous requirements of the portfolio. This is college level work, which means college level commitment of time outside of the regular class period.

It is your choice as to which assignments you complete from the Part B of the list. Part A is required. Artwork pieces should be between 9" x 12" and 18" x 24" in size (I recommend 11" x 14", as in the sketchbook I suggested before). The assignments are about **QUALITY** not quantity! You may use any media or mixed media of your choice. (Pat Catans is an excellent local source for art supplies!) The following assignments are designed for your "breadth" section of the portfolio and the emphasis on this section of works is *variety of media, styles, approaches and subject matter*.

PART A: Required Projects:

- **A self-portrait that expresses a specific mood.** Think about the effects of color and line and how it's use can help to convey this mood. You may use any style (realist, cubist, expressionist, etc.). Investigate self portraits online, or use this opportunity to visit a regional art museum (Akron, Cleveland, etc) and get inspiration before beginning this project.
 - In your sketchbook, draw 5 thumbnails of examples you found. Reference the style of at least one of the artists. Be sure to label the name of the artist, title, media and year produced.
- **A sketchbook journal of café sketches** – Go to at least 5 different places over the summer where you can sit and sketch for a long period of time. In your drawing, capture the essence of this place (restaurant, coffee shop, mall, dentist office, card shop, ART STORE, movie theatre, bathroom, your bedroom, etc) as well as the plants, animals ad people who are present in your scene. Use of color media is your choice.
- **Image pages** – when looking through magazines, newspaper, and other printed material, clip out and paste into your sketchbook images that might be used as references for future artwork. You should have at least 25 images...if not TONS more!

PART B: Select TWO Projects from the following list:

- **Still life arrangement that consists of 3 or more reflective objects.** Google the work of Janet Fish, print out thumbnails of her work and paste into your sketchbook. Create at least 3 thumbnails of your still life incorporating technique seen in Fish's work. Draw a finished drawing in your own style of the still life using your choice of media.
- **Buildings in a landscape:** Do a drawing on location. Look for a building or spot in your neighborhood that is part of your neighborhoods identity. It could be a firehouse, restaurant, park pavilion, church, landmark home...or any other building or place that you pass by often and would miss seeing if it were torn down. Use correct perspective techniques.
- **A drawing of an unusual interior** – A closet, cabinet, refrigerator, car interior...under the hood or inside the car, etc!
- **Expressive landscape:** Locate a landscape near your home or use a photo THAT YOU TOOK of a landscape. Though it is best to work from the actual subject, so TRY to work from the landscape outdoors! Use an expressive color to draw the landscape to express a mood or feeling. Think about which colors conjure up different feelings for you and use those to CREATE your place!
- **A still life arrangement of your family members shoes:** You should include at least three shoes – go for interesting shape, design, texture and color. Look at the work of early Vincent van Gogh's study of shoes – print out references and place in your sketchbook with at least 3 thumbnails of your shoe set up before beginning your final drawing.
- **Create a self-portrait of yourself that is done by looking at your reflection in an unusual reflective surface** – OR, something other than a mirror....this could be an appliance, odd glass surface, a hubcap (rim), convex/concave mirror, etc.
- **A close up drawing of a bicycle from an unusual angle.** DO NOT draw the bicycle from the side (BORING). *(note: a few art schools still require a drawing of a bicycle in their portfolio)....detail, detail, detail!*
- **Action portrait:** have a friend or family member pose for you doing some sort of movement (riding a bike, walking down stairs, jumping rope, skipping, etc.) Capture the entire sequence of their action in one piece of artwork. How will you portray movement in your work? Look at “Nude Descending a Staircase” by Dada artist Marcel Duchamp to see an example of an action painting. Also see the work of Futurist artists Giacomo Balla or F T Marinetti for examples. (Paste in your sketchbook as reference)

Getting Registered at the College Board Website:

Just as soon as possible (especially if you plan to submit your portfolio), register at www.collegeboard.com!!!! Here you will find information about AP Studio Art-Drawing and 2D portfolio exams, scoring rubrics used and examples of past student work.

- From the homepage, click on the “for students” tab
- Under “my organizer” you can create a free user account – you can use this account to access information about any AP exam and classes.
- Under the “College Board Tests” section, you can click on “AP” which will take you to the AP homepage.
- Here is a link to the Studio Art homepage:
http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_studioart.html

Financial Matters

Over the summer you will need to consider the cost of taking the AP Studio Art exam and plan for it. Unfortunately, it is not cheap!

AP College Board Test Fee:	Approximately \$85 *
WHS Studio Art Fee:	\$50 for the year (screaming GOOD deal)
Summer supplies:	\$20+

*Test fee can be waived or reduced, if financial need can be established with application.
...The “test” is the submission of the portfolio described in the first section of your handout...

Any questions????

Feel free to contact me on my cell, if you deem it necessary, or email me also.

Mrs. Tricia L. Taggart

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