

AP Studio Art: Drawing Syllabus

Instructor: Bree Nieland

Email: bree.nieland@anoka.k12.mn.us

Classroom website: www.anoka.k12.mn.us/andoverhsnieland

Andover High School

Voicemail ext: 506.8433

Office hours: 7:10am-2:55pm

Course description:

This course is designed for students who want the rigor of a college level art course while still within the high school setting. This course runs for two quarters and due to scheduling restrictions, AP Studio Art students are usually placed within the advanced level and the introductory level art courses we offer. The three AP Studio Art course choices that are available to you are AP Studio Art Drawing, AP Studio Art 2-D, and AP Studio Art 3-D. For all of the AP Studio Art courses, the three major portfolio areas that will be developed and investigated are Breadth, Concentration, and Quality.

The Three AP Studio Art courses:

AP Studio Art Drawing:

In this portfolio drawing is interpreted broadly and can include, but is not limited to, traditional drawing and drawing media, painting, printmaking, and mixed media. The art work should demonstrate your drawing ability in terms of using mark making to show value, depth/form, space, contour, and a variety of line qualities. Your portfolio should show your understanding of different types of compositions also. You will be encouraged to explore a variety of pieces including but not limited to drawing from life, figure drawing, self-portraits, still-life, landscape, abstract work, expressive work, collage, and mixed media. All of the mark making you do should be intentional and of high quality. Marks can be made with any media you choose, exploration and experimentation are encouraged!

AP Studio Art 2-D:

In this portfolio two-dimensional design issues are interpreted broadly and can include, but are not limited to, photography, computer/digital imaging, graphic design, illustrating, typography, printmaking, collage, textiles, fibers, and painting. This portfolio is about design and is dealing with the above in terms of the art elements and design principles. To review, the art elements are like the ingredients we make art with and include line, shape, color, form, space, value, and texture. The design principles are like recipes we follow (how we order/arrange them) and include unity, variety, balance, rhythm, movement, emphasis, proportion/scale, and repetition. Your portfolio should show your understanding of different types of compositions also. You will be encouraged to explore a variety of pieces for your portfolio that may include realistic work, abstract work, expressive work, solving design problems, collage, and mixed media.

AP Studio Art 3-D:

In this portfolio three-dimensional design is interpreted broadly and deals with the relationship of the three-dimensional form in space. Issues of sculpture to consider include volume, mass, form, plane, surface texture, light, and space (around and/or within a sculpture). Projects can include, but are not limited to, clay, stone, plaster, metals, wire, wood, plastics, fibers, mixed media, apparel, and/or architectural models. You will be encouraged to sculpturally explore a variety of pieces including, but not limited to, the figure, a self-portrait, a relief sculpture, a subtractive sculpture, an additive sculpture, an abstract work, an expressive work, and a mixed media piece. You will be encouraged to explore and experiment with a variety of materials and also to work in different scales.

The Three Areas of the AP Studio Art Portfolio

Breadth: The breadth section of a portfolio will demonstrate your range and experimentation as an artist through the wide variety of materials you use and the subject matter you explore. This section will be worked on within class and independently outside of class throughout the duration of the course. It is possible to include for the Breadth section any strong artwork from past high school art courses. Also consider redoing previous assignments with your improved and developed skills to be included in this section.

Concentration: The concentration area of a portfolio will show your critical thinking and problem-solving skills as an artist as you create a body of work that is evidence of a strong underlying visual idea. Your concentration will be determined through a series of exercises, including but not limited to; discussions and critiques (with instructor and classmates), brainstorming, and self-examination exercises. This process will assist you in narrowing your interests and ideas to determine your strongest visual idea for a series of work, the media possibilities, and a plan for executing the work. Realize that art is an ongoing process, and that your involvement in the decision making and critical thinking about your artwork is fundamental. This will become more apparent as you develop your concentration and reap the benefits of self-evaluation and critiques, and your projects lead into new ideas and directions. You will also write an artist statement about your experiences in developing this concentration that will be submitted with your portfolio.

Quality: The format of this course will enable you to develop your artwork in terms of mastery of concept, composition, and execution in the areas of drawing, 2-D Design, or 3D Design. Through this process of self-evaluation and weekly critiques (both formal and informal, with both peers and instructors) you will be guided in determining your strengths and the direction for your artwork in terms of quality. The artworks for this section demonstrate your best work, showing your strongest concepts, compositions, and technical skills. Your efforts for the highest quality will always be an expectation for all of the artwork you produce during this course, and any piece you make may be considered for this section.

Course Expectations for AP Studio Art Students

Critiques:

Critiques are a valuable tool for you as an AP Studio artist. As you begin a project, an informal critique with the instructor is necessary for you to present your sketches and share your ideas to receive feedback. Periodically, you will have progress critiques as you are working on a project as needed or requested by you and/or the instructor. These critiques will occur as both individual and group critiques, where you will not only receive feedback, but also be expected to give feedback on the art work of your peers. There will be an evaluative critique at the end of each project to determine how well your project met the goals you set for the portfolio area you were working on, and to determine a grade. During a critique we will discuss your intent and objectives as an artist and determine how well they are being achieved in the work you are producing. Feedback will be provided emphasizing the art elements and design principles and to what extent they are successfully working in your artwork. Constructive criticism will also be provided along with suggestions for improvement of your artwork.

Copyright:

The copyright issue is taken very seriously in the art department. No artwork will be accepted for course credit that has been produced from a copyrighted image. You are strongly encouraged to draw and

produce art from life (looking at actual objects, people, and landscapes). If you must use an image, take the picture yourself. If you have a question about image use, see your instructor for clarification before beginning your work. Copyrighted images used for reference must be shown to the instructor, and your art work must prove that you have moved beyond duplication to create your own original image, and have not plagiarized the image used. This is an issue of artistic integrity and also legal issue.

Homework:

You will be expected to do homework as assigned to complete the artwork necessary for your AP Studio art portfolio. This usually amounts to one project every two weeks outside of class, and can be more or less depending on what you are starting out with as a portfolio. The list of suggested projects attached is a guideline for you and you are encouraged to determine with the instructor on an individual basis what particular projects will benefit your portfolio the most.

Grading:

Each project will be graded as determined in advance with the instructor and a participation grade will be determined for that project as well.

Course Outline for Tri 1:

The goal of this quarter is to complete the Breadth section of the portfolio, with all work completed being strong enough to be considered for the Quality section also, and to determine what your Concentration will be and start making work for that section. You will begin with a critique of the artwork you have produced during your high school career that you want considered for inclusion into your portfolio. Then, you will use the project ideas listed below to fill out the bulk of your Breadth section. Use this list as a guideline to get you thinking. Remember this is your portfolio! Consider each project idea listed as a problem to solve, and then substitute or alter them to best suit your portfolio. Be sure to discuss the changes you are making with the instructor. Dimensions for Drawing and 2-D work are minimally 8x10" to a maximum of 18x24" (work can be larger for slides, but this is the maximum for work to be actually submitted for the Quality section). Throughout the quarter we will also do a variety of activities to inspire thinking about possible concentration ideas and narrow your focus. It is quite possible that in exploring Breadth you find the beginnings of a concentration idea you would like to explore.

Course Outline for Tri 2:

The goal of this quarter is to complete the Concentration area of your portfolio, make final determinations of what will be in each section of your portfolio, and shoot the slides for your portfolio. At the start of the quarter you will meet with the instructor individually to determine the due dates of your Concentration projects and establish a plan for the term. The amount of homework you have will be determined by what you need to accomplish this quarter to complete your portfolio successfully on time.