

Advanced Placement Studio in Art Drawing

This course is intended for dedicated and mature student artists who intend on pursuing an art or design education in college. Students must be willing and able to dedicate themselves to working outside of class to complete this very demanding workload. *The course emphasizes making art as an ongoing process that involves the student in informed and critical decision making.*

Students will work throughout the year on completing an AP Portfolio. This portfolio will consist of 12 Breadth assignments and 12 Concentration assignments. Before the AP exam date in May students will select their 5 strongest pieces for inclusion in their Quality section. These 5 works will be sent to AP for scoring along with slides of the Breadth and Concentration sections.

The **Breadth** section begins now and continues until the exam date in May. It will showcase a variety of work, use an assortment of media, and deal with numerous themes/concepts. This section will prove that you've had a thorough understanding of the Principles of Design and Elements of Art. These pieces (12) will be given as class assignments with specific grading criteria.

The **Concentration** section begins at the Second Quarter in November. A concentration is a body of work that investigates a strong underlying visual idea in drawing. You need to start thinking about it now. Your concentration will continue to address one theme or concept. In most cases, it is executed using the same style or media. You will need 12 pieces dedicated to this one theme or concept. You will be shown various slide shows that will help you understand how and why artists work with their own concentrations, series, and bodies of work.

The guiding questions you need to continually answer for your concentration are:

- What is the central idea of your Concentration?

- How does the work in your Concentration demonstrate the exploration of your idea?
- Why did you need to produce this series? What does it comment on and why? What does it say about you?
- What is your work about? Why should people be interested?
- Why was this theme worth developing over a series of work?
- Which principles/elements are you using for your concentration? How will they influence the viewers emotionally?
- How do the principles and elements of art/design help to communicate the concept for your Concentration Project?
- What do you hope people will walk away with after seeing this series?
- Why was this media best suited for expressing your theme:

The **Quality** section will be selected in May. You will choose your 5 strongest pieces from the Breadth and Concentration sections. No piece can be bigger than 24" x 18".

Art Journals/Sketchbooks

Students will be expected to keep a sketchbook/journal with them at all times. We will have weekly journal checks for grades. You will be assessed on the quantity, not quality, of work in your journal. Therefore, students of all skill levels will be equally rewarded for their time spent working creatively in their sketchbooks/journals. It is expected that students will complete one and a half hours of independent work every week. (see attached)

Expected Work Time

It is impossible to succeed in this class without spending numerous hours every week working outside of class. It is expected that you will come into the studio during your free periods, lunches, and after school. Those of you with jobs after school are expected to work at home on projects. You will need to show me the development of these projects every week, at the very least. Please remember, this is a college level class. Learning to handle the workload is critical to your success.

Courtesy in the Studio

The Laws of Courtesy apply to this studio. Remember that this is a community space that is being shared by 120 students. Clean up after yourselves and respect the supplies, tools, and materials. Every student will be given a studio responsibility. Every week we will have a studio cleanup. Every student will be graded on their ability to complete their responsibility. These grades will count 10% of your quarter grade.

Art History Wednesday

Every Wednesday you will be presented with a new artist, movement, or style from art history. You will be shown slides and given an information sheet. You will be expected to keep a folder to house all info. The folder will be graded at the end of every quarter.

Costs

You will be required to pay an exam fee of \$82.00 and a slide processing fee of \$68.00. Payments are due at the end of the first Quarter (Nov.) Checks for the exam fee are made payable to Kenmore East Student Fund. Checks for Slide Processing are made payable to Kenmore East Art Club. We use the Campos Group for our slide processing. Feel free to research their website for information regarding costs and procedures.

Overview

First Quarter (10 weeks)

Students will begin work on the **Breadth Section** of their portfolios. There are 12 slides required for this section. 5 Breadth assignments will be given in the first quarter. 4 Breadth assignments will be given in each the second and third quarters.

The goal is to have a diversified collection of various styles, concepts, media, and techniques. We want to avoid “duplicate” slides or slides that are too similar to each other in this section. We will work together, as a class, on teacher-initiated assignments with specific rubrics and deadlines. Through exposure to a wide variety of drawing styles and techniques it is anticipated that students will develop a strength and passion for a particular method. Students will also be taught that these various styles and techniques ultimately communicate different ideas. Therefore, certain concepts can be better displayed, visually, through the use of specific media and technique. Assignments will be staggered so that students get accustomed to working on various projects at one time.

To start, students will be shown a brief art history slide show on the idea of **mark making**. Slides shown will include, among others: Lascoiux cave drawings, Aboriginal *Dreamings*, Japanese Sumi paintings, Polynesian tattoos, Greek Amphora scraffito, Ingres, Millet, Seurat, Picasso, Kolwitz, Tobey, Kline, Pollack, DeKooning, and Haring.

We will also start the year by doing some outside observational drawings. Including, but not limited to:

Negative space chair drawings with chalk pastels.

Tree paintings with an emphasis on contour, shading, light and form.

Cubism still life with colored pencils.

Parking Lot car drawings with oil crayons and emphasis on contrast and composition.

Second and Third Quarters (10 weeks each)

Throughout the second and third quarters you will continue to gain mastery of important drawing concepts and techniques. The following areas will be addressed with the corresponding (or similar) lessons:

Composition.

Bicycle still life. Charcoal value study

Line weights.

Feet and Fabric Drawing using 4 different line widths.

Cross Hatching Lines.

Self Portrait. Pen and ink

Emphasis.

-Portraits with Text. Composition and Poetry.

- Appropriation repetition drawings with tracing paper transfers.

Value

Pots and pans still life with charcoal pencils.

Gesture.

- Life drawing with conte.

-Color Study abstractions with cardboard “brushes” and palette knives.

Depth

-Architectural Perspective paintings with Acrylic

- Landscape paintings with watercolor

Color

- Pointilism study with Acrylic

-Students will also have an early understanding of the concept of **appropriation**. It is unlawful and unethical to use another artist’s work. The ideas of artistic integrity will be addressed.

ap·pro·pri·ate   **Pronunciation Key** (ə-prō-prē-īt)

adj. To take possession of or make use of exclusively for oneself, often without permission: *Lee appropriated my unread newspaper and never returned it.*

***Synonyms:** appropriate, arrogate, commandeer, confiscate, preempt, usurp*

These verbs mean to seize for oneself or as one's right: *appropriated the family car; arrogated the chair at the head of the table; commandeered a plane for the escape; confiscating stolen property; preempted the glory for herself; usurped the throne.* See also synonyms at [allocate](#)

To find images and use them in an artwork is a completely natural process. You will be required to collect images from newspapers and magazines in a folder. It is absolutely unacceptable, however, to take another artist's photograph, drawing, or idea and reproduce it for your own without altering it in a substantial and meaningful way.

As stated before, your **Concentration** will begin at the start of the second quarter. Again, you need to start thinking about potential subjects and concepts as early as possible. You will begin working in class and at home as soon as we agree on an appropriately challenging and thought provoking investigation for your concentration.

During the second and third quarters you will be working on Breadth assignments as well as Concentration pieces simultaneously. It requires discipline and dedication during these times. We will have weekly checks and monthly critiques to keep everyone on task and up-to-date.

Fourth Quarter (10 weeks)

We will begin shooting your slides for your portfolio review. The AP Studio in Art exam date is usually held at the beginning of May. Once the exam is done and the portfolios are shipped out, we can begin working on your senior Art Show, Digital Portfolios, and Portfolio Presentations.

Critiques

Critiques are essential to this program. We need to be able to share ideas from each other in an open forum that encourages honesty and questioning. You need to be able to accept constructive criticism for the greater good of improving your work. You also need to be able to effectively communicate to your peers what is visually working (or not) about their own pieces. The ability to speak using art vocabulary and the Principles and Elements of

Art/Design is essential. Everyone is expected to participate in class critiques. The more intelligent opinions we get, the better the critique.

Gallery Visits

You are required to go to at least one art gallery per Quarter. Please see attached.

Grading

Grading for all assignments will be done with a predetermined rubric and set of criteria. We will always review the requirements before, during, and after the project. You will always be asked to complete a reflection sheet of questions regarding the assignment, the process, vocabulary, art history, and criteria.

Craftsmanship is the one constant for every project. It is included in every grading rubric. We will define Craftsmanship as the *visual* record of time, pride, and effort. Good craftsmanship also shows the viewers that you have a knowledge and mastery of your materials.

Good luck. Be dedicated. Be disciplined. Be challenged.

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