

GRADE 9-12 VISUAL ARTS COURSE OUTLINE

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This course is exploratory in nature, offering an overview of visual arts as a foundation for further study. Students will become familiar with the elements and principles of design and the expressive qualities of various materials by using a range of media, processes, techniques, and styles. Students will use the Connecting & Responding Inquiry Questions and will interpret art within a personal, contemporary, and historical context.

The expectations for this course in visual arts are organized into **four essential learning areas**. Everything you experience in the course will pertain to one or more of these areas in some way.

1. **"MAKING"** -- *The learner develops **language and practices** for making visual art.*

- develops competencies for using elements and principles of artistic design in a variety of contexts.
- develops competencies for using visual art media, tools, techniques, and processes in a variety of contexts.
- develops skills in observation and depiction.

2. **"CONNECTING"** -- *The learner develops understandings about the significance of the visual arts **by making connections** to various times, places, social groups, and cultures.*

- develops understandings about people and practices in the visual arts.
- develops understandings about the influence and impact of the visual arts.
- develops understandings about the roles, purposes, and meanings of the visual arts.

3. **"CREATING"** -- *The learner generates, develops, and communicates ideas for **creating visual art**.*

- generates and uses ideas from a variety of sources for creating visual art.
- develops original artworks, integrating ideas and art elements, principles, and media.
- revises, refines, and shares ideas and original artworks

4. **"RESPONDING"** -- *The learner uses **critical reflection** to enlighten visual arts learning and to develop artistic action and identity.*

- generates initial reactions to visual arts experiences.
- critically observes and describes visual arts experiences.
- analyzes and interprets visual arts experiences.
- applies new understandings about visual arts to construct identity and to act in transformative ways.

Project Plan **subject to change*

- Drawing
- Sculpture
- Mixed Media
- Painting
- Art History
- Sketchbook Development

Sketchbook Development

Most artists keep sketchbooks in which they experiment with ideas and collect drawings of their surroundings.

Some sketchbook facts...

- The most famous artist sketchbooks are those of Leonardo da Vinci. His sketchbooks are filled with drawings, diagrams and written notes of things he saw and ideas he came up with.
- Picasso produced 178 sketchbooks in his life time. He often used his sketchbooks to explore themes and make drafts of ideas until he found the right idea and subject for a larger painting on canvas.
- Henry Moore filled one of his sketchbooks with drawings of sheep that often wandered by the window outside his studio.

If you want to improve your artistic expression, it's a good idea to start carrying a sketchbook around with you all the time. You can draw in your sketchbook, write in it and stick photographs and other things you find in it. Later on, you can return to your sketchbook when you're looking for ideas for making works of art.

Sketchbooks are useful in many ways...

1. It is a place for you to record your own ideas and make drafts of ideas when planning for projects.
2. It will serve as a way for you to refer back to your ideas over time.
3. You can write down good ideas you see elsewhere e.g., in various media (TV, Internet...), in your readings, in your classmates' work, etc.
4. You can also collect existing material (e.g., pictures from magazines, the Internet...) and glue them into the sketchbook.
5. You will develop your skills in freehand sketching as a way to describe visual information (ideas and descriptive details) related to the course material we are covering.
6. Regular use of the sketchbook will help you develop your skills, your accuracy and your confidence in sketching out your ideas.

Sketchbook Development Assessment:

Your sketchbook development will be assessed throughout the semester and should demonstrate your **on-going** creative process involving a variety of different entries (representational drawings, mixed media collage, photography, abstract drawings, sketches, conceptual designs, cartoons, doodles, poetry, art articles.)

*Remember to sign and date each work.

*See attached "Sketchbook Development" sheet for guidance and how your sketchbook will be assessed.

Grading Categories

- Application & Creative Expression (original artwork) – 70%
- Theory and Art Appreciation – 10%
- Demonstration of Skill Development and Sketchbook Assignments and Development -20%

Class Expectations

- Treat everyone and supplies with respect.
- All projects should be developed in class on a daily basis. It is in your best interest to use your time wisely in class. Your creation process must be demonstrated daily – since the majority of your mark is based on this.
- Be prepared with sketchbook & supplies every day.
- Arrive to class on time so you do not miss instructions given.
- Be responsible for cleaning your area well at the end of each class and putting away supplies you used.
- As a high school student, you are expected to remain in the classroom for the full duration of the class. Please ask for permission and sign out on the sign out sheet as required by our school rules. If you leave class, your attendance will be recorded as "Departed Early".

Tech Device Use in Visual Arts

- **Cell Phone use is not permitted during class time.**
- **Phones must be hidden away or placed in a container provided by your teacher.**
- **Regarding educational use** – we have four iPads and four desktop computers in the classroom for research use. Not Facebook.
- **An alternate plan will be made for you and your device or cell phone if you are not able to respect these expectations.**

It is assumed you are enrolled in Visual Arts because you have a genuine interest and enjoyment in experiencing and creating visual art. Your interest and enjoyment is something I look forward to seeing this semester! Don't be afraid to try new things and build on your artistic skill and experiences 😊