

**AP Studio Art Course Syllabus**  
**Liberty High School**  
**Mr. J. Napier**

**Course Overview**

The AP Studio Art Course consists of three sections for the AP Portfolio. These sections are QUALITY, CONCENTRATION and BREADTH. Portfolio development is an ongoing process where students are expected to use informed and critical decision making to develop their work. We will do renderings as well as working on projects that are based in creative thought (moving from rendering/life drawings to the completely imaginative.) Students are expected to develop mastery in concept, composition, and execution of ideas.

Students will work on individual portfolios which will show a grouping of works in the areas of study. Students must research (or design) their ideas for their independent projects and document this in their sketchbook journals. Through goal setting, students are guided in setting challenging but attainable creative goals for projects. Students will be working from a set of standards so they can gauge their progress while working towards their goal.

In the Breadth section, students will explore a variety of concepts and approaches in order to form the necessary work through the problem solving aspects and artistic techniques of the problem/piece. Students will become very familiar with various concepts and artistic practice during class critiques. These times open the chance for students to explore a variety of techniques, concepts, problem solving and ideas outside of their own views and at the same time display their personal work.

These experiences are also very useful for the development of the students Concentration.

Concentrations are developed in a specific style and format chosen by the student and teacher. These include drawing, graphic design, painting, photography, interior design to name a few. In the Concentration section, students develop a body of work that grows from a coherent design in a theme or idea. It should be well planned and researched and fit the personal interest of the student.

From all of these works, five Quality examples of excellent work will be matted as a part of the finished portfolio. Students will understand that making art is an ongoing process that makes use of informed as well as critical decision making. These decisions will be examined through the use of the AP scoring rubric and individual or group evaluations. Students are encouraged to elevate the level of their work, allowing visually significant changes (develop) for the better from one work too the next.

Students will also exhibit their work in a group AP Art Show for the school and community. The course is defined with the completion of each student's portfolio. Students are expected to produce work of AP quality and document each piece in a digital format to go along with the 5 works of Quality. Each work

missing documentation will result in a lowered grade at each 6 week grading period. This will be the student's personal portfolio, which can include work from outside of class or from other courses.

## **Course Content**

### **The course will include the following components for grade:**

- Study of Art History, artists and trends. Students are expected to visit galleries and local art museums on their own to build knowledge and foundation for personal exploration. (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday - *Fresno ArtHop's*) We will also have guest artist's and view video clips and shows.
- A sketchbook to be composed of *Cold Open Images*, visual ideas, notes, photos, doodles, plans, short assignments, thumbnail sketches and practice of various techniques.
- **Development of student's submitted portfolio which has three parts:**

#### **Quality** (Original Works)

- Five Matted work for Drawing (or )
- Five matted works for 2-D Design

These should be the student's best work and cannot be larger than 18" x 24".

#### **Concentration**

This should include 12 Images exploring a single visual concept in depth. When a subject has been chosen the student will spend a great amount of time developing it. It should show investigation, growth, and discovery involved in the completion of the visual concept. The Concentration will begin during the last part of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester and be completed in the second. (up to three images can be close-up images showing details of a work.)

#### **Breadth**

This is a set of works showing mastery of a varied media, technique and subject matter. This should include 12 images of 12 different works.

The final portfolio submissions will include 24 Images. Each student will need to complete 12 images of their completed work per semester minimum to complete an accomplished portfolio. This means that more than 24 works will need to be completed to gather the best for submission. (On average, 1 work of art every 10 days / This includes vacation days!) Students will be asked to have these works done and documented well before the May submission date so further attention can be put toward bettering the Defined portfolio.

## Copyright

All works must be original. Students are not allowed to work from published photographs or other copyrighted work except as a reference. If students decide on using someone else's work, they must present the artwork as significantly altered, demonstrating the students own voice and expression.

## Assessment and Evaluation

The standards of quality in student work are based on the range of accomplishments in the AP art class, the evidence of thought, care, and effort demonstrated in the work. All of these elements are discussed with students, individually and in the class critique.

### Portfolio Development (60%) All students will submit an *AP Studio Art Portfolio*

- Based on finished work necessary to meet quota
- Digital Documentation of work; correctly labeled and in timely fashion
- Artwork graded using the evaluation rubrics as established by the College Board
- Both volume and quality will be taken into consideration for final grade reports

### Studio Conduct (40%)

- Cold Open Image (C.O.I.) work in sketch book
- Regular attendance and being on time is mandatory.
- Proper use of in-class time.
- Attention during lectures, directions and demonstrations.
- Participation in critical discussion (e.g. critiques)
- Proper use of materials and equipment. (Safety 1<sup>st</sup>!)
- Proper clean-up and storage of work.

### Required Skills

- Students will over the course of the year develop a portfolio of college level drawings that demonstrate evidence of mastery in concept, composition and execution in the product.
- Explore ideas using an ongoing process of experiments, practice, and planning.
- Select methods of development for major artworks (e.g. mark making, compositional elements, patterns, color harmony, balance, and media, etc.) that are suitable to the purpose of the artwork.
- Experience a variety of concepts and approaches to demonstrate their abilities and versatility with problem solving, ideation, media, and techniques.
- Use experiments practices and informed and critical decision making to develop a unique visual approach for their ideas and to solve advanced visual problems.
- Build and improve their work through self-reflection and critiques with their peers and teacher.
- Incorporate the *elements and principles of design* into each work.

- Incorporate ideas and concepts from art history, alternative formats and cultural studies into their artwork.

**Term 1:** August, September, November (Drawing, Drawing, Drawing and Painting)

**Overview**

A series of teacher-initiated assignments will be presented with the purpose of introducing the student to a wide range of media and techniques. The student will work through various concepts that will build the students problem solving/critical thinking levels. By the end of the term students will be well on their way to having completed a body of work for the Breadth Section of the portfolio.

Students will:

- Develop their art ideas using a wide range of art concepts.
- Understand the need for artistic integrity as it applies to their work.
- Have exposure to a range of historically based art and artists to draw from.
- Achieve the quality of work needed to demonstrate understanding of composition and knowledge and use of art elements and art principles as well as meaningful subject matter.

Scores will be based on assignment rubrics and ability to document the 10 images needed at this time.

**Term 2:** December, January, February (Painting, Painting, and Photography)

**Overview**

Breadth work will continue to be worked on through this period and required to be finished by Fall Semesters end. The main focus for this term will be the development of each student's personal portfolio, the imagery that will constitute the Concentration section. It will be important at this time for the individual student and instructor to meet and review the appropriate path to be taken for this section. By the terms end students will have completed most, if not all, of the works and documented them as well as initiated a written perspective to describe the concepts and development of the project using accurate artistic language.

Students will:

- Be assisted in discovering a working definition of what constitutes an acceptable and successful Concentration.
- Receive guidance in creating a plan of action for the individual pieces of the Concentration.
- Achieve quality in their completed work and show personal growth and the solving of critical issue in the art process.
- Begin the first part of the written statement forming an individual plan of action.
- Show knowledge of artists whose influence is visible in students work and address this in the written statement as well as identifying the key works that show the students voice as an artist.

Scores will be based on rubrics for individual assignments as well as completion of 20 Images total.

**Term 3:** – March, April, May

**Overview**

This short period of time will be devoted to the finalization of the AP Portfolio. Students will receive individual mentoring regarding the selection of work to be submitted in both the Breadth and Concentration sections. It will be important for the student to meet with the instructor for mentoring at which time the portfolio's can be thoroughly reviewed to address and remedy the lesser works.

Students will:

- Evaluate all work that is intended for the final portfolio and carefully consider the inclusion of any pieces completed prior to the course or completed outside the instruction offered in this course.
- Follow instruction regarding best practice for sequencing and labeling Images for both Section II and III.
- Implement strategies for identifying and presenting the five best pieces.
- Complete final editing and printing of the written statement for Section I.
- Complete registration and ordering of work within the portfolio based in the completion of the entire portfolio.

## AP Studio Art Overview

### The Breadth Overarching Question:

- What is the world of art outside of my personal concentration interest and how can I effectively demonstrate understanding through a visual format?

*Students will study art traditions and artists to better understand this idea and draw from this influence.*

### The Concentration Overarching Question:

- What is my Personal Concentration Interest and how can I effectively communicate this through a visual format?

*Students will study specific artists and learn how they have affected society and culture.*

## Summer Assignments

1. Self-Portrait: Arrange interesting lighting effects and composition. Use full piece of paper (minimum 9" x 12") and place in a space.
2. Graphic Collage: Using digital or standard print photography, students will create a mixed media work with a foundation in graphic design. Computer imaging software can be used where available as well Photocopies, drawing and/or painting to complete the work. Look up artist for inspiration; Barbara Krueger, Andy Warhol, Ed Ruscha, Jasper Johns, and David Hockney's photographic works; all of whom are heavily inspired by Commercial Advertisements. (minimum 12" x 16" work, no larger than 18" x 24".)
3. Independent Assignment: Using the material of students choosing, creatively represent in the work subject matter that interests the individual.

## Suggested Media:

Not all of the works in pencil; when using pencils, make it a selection of 3-5 *ranges of drawing pencil*. Use of pen, crosshatching, color, charcoal, Conte, pastels, markers or any other materials available is suggested. Use the entire page. Art quality paper is a must.

## Valuable Tools:

- 9 X 12" Sketchbook
- 22 X 24" Drawing Boards
- 18 X 24" newsprint drawing paper
- Color drawing materials of your choice: pastels, oil sticks, Prisma color pencils, etc.
- Camera; camera phone or digital camera work best.
- Kneaded Rubber Eraser
- Magic Rub Eraser
- Conte Crayons or similar