

# AP STUDIO ART

Course Syllabus 2018-2019

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced Placement Studio Art students are required to explore all three aspects of the portfolio, which include Selected Works (Quality), Sustained Investigation (Concentration), and Range of Approaches (Breadth). Students begin the year working on their Range of Approaches section, which therefore allows them to have a period of time to experiment with a variety of media and concepts. Students are expected to develop skills so as to develop a level of mastery in concept, composition, and execution of ideas. Early in the school year they are shown various examples of previous Advanced Placement portfolios for inspiration. After a variety of assignments that cover a wide breadth of drawing skills, students learn a variety of design techniques, using acrylics, watercolor, collage and digital media techniques. Once students have developed skills in a variety of drawing, painting and design media, they go on to develop multimedia works of art based on individual choices and concepts. In fact, students also have the opportunity to explore a variety of individual preferences that include various techniques.

Art assignments are given on a regular basis with class and individual student critiques at conclusion of each project enabling students to analyze in depth their own art work, then going on to discuss their art with their peers. In addition, students analyze the art of master and professional artists, as well as the art of other cultures. All analysis and critiques are done in both a written and verbal format with the vocabulary of art used as the foundation of discussions. Periodic group critiques provide not only analysis of the progress of student work, but also community building within the classroom.

There is inspiration and broadening of the students' visual arts experiences through visits to our classroom and demonstrations by professional artists, as well as special exhibits in our art gallery on campus by professional artists. Students are also enriched by special field trips to galleries and museums. In addition students have many experiences of exhibiting their art locally, at the county level, and sometimes at state and national levels.

## PREREQUISITES

There is not a prerequisite for AP Studio Art, however it is highly recommended that students complete at least one year of a Visual Art Studio class prior to AP. Specifically, it is recommended that you have experienced Art I, Art II, Graphic Design, and Photography, and Sculpture if enrolling in AP 3D. Strong art skills, independence, and a strong work ethic are essential to be successful in AP Studio Art. This is to HELP you; students who are juniors and seniors with a lot of art classes under their belts tend to do much better!

## AP EXAM/AP CREDIT

The grade you earn in this class has no influence on the College Board AP portfolio score. Classroom materials are provided by the school. The Exam date (when portfolios are due) will be announced in class as soon as possible, so students will be prepared.

Students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses are expected to take the appropriate Advanced Placement exam(s) (administered by the campus AP/IB Coordinator). If the portfolio earns a 3 or better the student may be able to transfer this credit to their college transcript.

## COURSE CONTENT

45% of the class time focuses on breadth- learning new mediums and techniques

- Total of 12 images submitted (12 pieces minimum)

45% of the class time focuses on the development of a concentration – selecting a specific 'theme' that will be present in your artwork

- Total of 12 images submitted (9 pieces minimum)

10% of the class time focuses on developing and presenting quality pieces/critiquing

- Total of 5 matted works (actual pieces) submitted

The first half of the semester will be devoted mainly to Range of Approaches work. This work is generally driven by the teacher's triggers and prompts to artistic concerns, techniques and issues.

The second half of the semester will be dedicated to the Sustained Investigation section of the portfolio. This work is expected to be developed and grow into a planned investigation.

## HOMEWORK

Students enrolled in university level art classes are expected to spend considerable amounts of time working on art OUTSIDE of the classroom/studio. It is no different in AP Studio Art classes. I expect that you will be working on one project in class and one at home in order to complete the required amount of work. Therefore, depending on how fast you work, you may have homework every night.

## STUDENT OBJECTIVES

- Strong work ethic and time management
- Work through and solve visual problems creatively and effectively
- Development in ability to render what students wishes to communicate
- Greater knowledge and ability to use art tools and materials
- Increased awareness and appreciation of the creative process and risk taking

## RESPECT AGREEMENT

Your desire to help me and fellow students, and your respect for our precious (and expensive) equipment and resources are important for the success of the class. We will work together as a class to develop our own respect agreement for classroom expectations. We must be prepared to learn from each other in order to put forth our best efforts for a successful class.

## GRADING

Even though student art is individual and experimental there are still standards of quality in student work. Expectations are based on a range of accomplishments and evidence is expected that shows thought, care, complexity, execution and effort demonstrated in the quality of the work. All of these elements are discussed with students both individually and in discussions with their peers.

25% of your grade will come from "Practice Work". Practice work is all the work that you will do in class and at home to gain inspiration, do research, brainstorm ideas, practice techniques, explore concepts and ideas, and write about your art-making process. Some practice work will also be small assignments that have a due date, but most will be ongoing work that is unique to each individual.

50% of your grade will come from "Presentation Work". Presentation work is all the "major" projects that you do; the ones that you will present to the class during critiques. Artistic skills such as elements of art, principles of design, color theory, composition and framing, and in most assignments, and the ability to communicate conceptually will be evaluated in presentation-level work. Meaning and originality in the work is highly respected. There is always a self-evaluation component to every presentation-level project. And in addition to receiving a grade for the actual work, you will also be graded on your presentation and your ability to talk intelligently about your own and other's work during the critique

25% of your grade will be determined by your "Studio Performance.". Each day you earn participation points by displaying professional behavior, the desire and effort to learn and improve, a commitment working during studio time, respect for our equipment and resources, and for leaving the space and materials neat and organized at the end of the class.

All high school students are required to take a semester examination and/or complete a culminating activity in each course. The grade on the semester exam or culminating activity is worth 1/7 of the semester grade.

A senior student may be granted an exemption from taking the semester exam during the second semester (spring semester) if the student:

- Has maintained a grade of 85 or higher in the course for the spring semester
- Does not have more than one unexcused absence; and
- Has not been suspended or assigned to an alternative program during the school year; and
- Submits a form, signed by the parent, requesting the exemption.

A student can elect to take the semester exam even if the student qualifies for the exemption.

Excused absences or absences for school or District-sanctioned events will not be counted against a student.

## LATE WORK AND REGRADES

Because you will be presenting your work to the class during critiques, it is vital that you turn in your completed project at the beginning of class on the day that it is due.

Art is a process that can often take many revisions to perfect. You may redo an assignment/project or retake a test according to the following parameters:

- The student will be provided an opportunity for tutoring or re-teaching prior to retesting/redoing.
  - This may occur during class time, before or after school, or at another time agreed upon by the teacher and student.
  - A teacher may require the student to complete missed homework, test corrections, or other items as part of the re-teaching process.
- A student must redo the assignment or retake the test within five school days from the date the assignment or test was returned to the student.
- Any retests will be administered on the campus
- The grade the student receives on the redone assignments or retaken tests will be no higher than a 70
- Semester exams/projects that received a failing grade may not be retaken.

## TARDY POLICY

It is important to arrive to class on time each day. The classroom tardy log must be signed when entering the classroom after the tardy bell has sounded - for any reason.

1-2 Tardies = warning and communication to parent/guardian

3-5 Tardies = Lunch meeting in Art Room 115 (11:45AM), referral in R360 and communication to parent/guardian

6+ Tardies = Administrative referral

## COPYRIGHT

Work that makes use of photographs, published images, and or other artists/ works, must show creative development beyond duplication. This may be demonstrated through manipulation of formal qualities, design, and/or concept of the original work. It is unethical, constitutes plagiarism, and often violates copyright law to simply copy an image (even in another medium) that was created by someone else. Any works created through collaborating when not approved or to be in violation of this policy will not receive credit for the assignment.

## SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

Summer assignments have been posted to the course website, as well as the school website since May. Summer assignments are due the first day of class.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Students are expected to do extensive research for their art via libraries, internet, interviews and gallery / museum visits. In addition I use a variety of reference books and have an extensive library of resources available in my room for students.

## TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORK ACCESS

FWISD provides students with access to computer equipment, software, and network services. These tools support learning, collaboration, and educational research related to the curriculum. All technology and network usage must be consistent with these purposes, the Acceptable Use Policy, and all provisions of law governing the actions of the user. Students are expected to use any technology equipment, software, and network services only for assignments/projects that are assigned by their classroom teachers. Some examples of inappropriate use include playing games or streaming video; installing, downloading, copying, or deleting files; and attempting to access or use anyone else's account or password. Consequences for violating the Acceptable Use Policy vary depending on the nature and seriousness of the violation.

Because FWISD students have access to laptop and desktop computers, cell phones/smartphones will be restricted from use in the classroom. Cell phones/smartphones will be turned in to the numbered holder at the instructor's desk as the beginning of class for attendance and can be retrieved at the end of class when instructed.

## FIGURE STUDIES

Often during the course sequence of all the visual art courses, the student will be working with visual materials such as famous artworks, films of famous artists, charts and diagrams, slides, dvds, the Internet, and computer programs. This material may contain complete anatomical references, nude model poses and views of artists working from the nude in their studios, as well as scenes from modern films. The material may also mention and discuss the alternative lifestyles sometimes lived by famous artists, and may be expressed in language that might be considered offensive to some people. Current issues, as they relate to art and free expression, are also discussed in the art classes. If you have questions, please contact me at [alyssa.vallecorsa@fwisd.org](mailto:alyssa.vallecorsa@fwisd.org).

## MATERIALS

We will be using a sketchbook for this class, and you must bring it to class EVERY day, along with your charged computer. Also, do not throw any of your sketches away; leave everything you do in your sketchbook. This sketchbook is where you will draw your ideas and inspirations for your projects, as well as complete weekly assignments. This sketchbook is to be used only for this class, please keep it organized and neat.

We will be using cloud storage for our digital portfolio files. A secondary storing method for backing up files, such as a USB drive or external hard drive, is also highly recommended.

Board Policy permits replacement charges for Art materials that are lost or destroyed by a student. Please treat materials that are provided with respect and utilize materials for their intended purpose.

## STUDIO HOURS

Studio hours are available after school in Art Room 115 every Thursday after school at 3:30PM. Feel free to join me in the art room for extra studio time, assistance on your work, and/or late work or regrades.

I am looking forward to the work you create this year. You are going to learn to use tools and develop skills that will prepare you for academic and professional excellence moving forward, as well as enable you to make incredible, imaginative, fun, and useful works. It is going to be a great experience for all of us, so let's get started!

Alyssa Vallecorsa  
Visual Arts Instructor

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Alyssa Vallecorsa • Studio 115 • [avallecorsa.com](http://avallecorsa.com)

Both student and parent/guardian, please review the AP Studio Art course syllabus and FWISD Expectations for Advanced Level Courses.

**Please return this form to Ms. Vallecorsa by next class.**

## Parents/Guardians,

A copy of the AP Studio Art course syllabus and the FWISD Expectations for Advanced Level Courses is available to you on the course website at **[avallecorsa.com](http://avallecorsa.com)**. Please feel free to take a look at the site for class announcements, as well as updates on our class progress and work throughout the year. I can be contacted best through email at [alyssa.vallecorsa@fwisd.org](mailto:alyssa.vallecorsa@fwisd.org). Please provide your email or phone number below, whichever is your preferred mode of contact.

Thank you!

"I have read and understand the AP Art Course Syllabus document and policies and the FWISD Expectations for Advanced Level Courses."

## STUDENT

<hr/>	
 Student name (print)	Class + Period
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 Student signature	

## PARENT/GUARDIAN

My student carries a cell phone/smartphone device to school: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<hr/>	
 Parent/Guardian name (print)	 Parent/Guardian email
<hr/>	
 Parent/Guardian signature	 Parent/Guardian phone
Your preferred contact method: <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Phone	

# AP STUDIO ART

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Tanto el estudiante como el padre / tutor, revise el plan de estudios de AP Studio Art y las expectativas de FWISD para los cursos de nivel avanzado.

**Por favor devuelva este formulario a Ms. Vallecorsa para la próxima clase.**

## Padre/Guardián,

En el sitio web del curso en [avallecorsa.com](http://avallecorsa.com) se encuentra disponible una copia del programa de estudios de AP Studio Art y las Expectativas FWISD para cursos de nivel avanzado. Por favor, siéntase libre de echar un vistazo al sitio para los anuncios de clase, así como las actualizaciones sobre nuestro progreso de clase y el trabajo durante todo el año, me pueden contactar mejor a través de correo electrónico en [alyssa.vallecorsa@fwisd.org](mailto:alyssa.vallecorsa@fwisd.org). Proporcione su correo electrónico o número de teléfono a continuación, cualquiera que sea su modo de contacto preferido.

¡Gracias!

"He leído y entiendo el documento y las políticas del programa de cursos de arte de AP y las expectativas del FWISD para los cursos de nivel avanzado".

## STUDENT

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 Nombre del estudiante	Clase + Período
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 Firma del alumno	

## PADRE/GUARDIÁN,

Mi estudiante lleva un teléfono celular a la escuela: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<hr/>	
 Nombre del padre/guardián	 Email
<hr/>	
 Firma de los padres/guardián	 Teléfono
Contacto preferido: <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Teléfono	