

## Independent Art

### Course Description

In this course, students explore advanced visual art concepts, hone the skills learned in prerequisite courses, and more fully develop a personal visual language and aesthetic. Each student must present a portfolio of existing work before enrolling in the course, and the student and teacher work together to design a course of study. Throughout the year, students investigate the materials, processes, and ideas that artists and designers use; they create, experiment and revise their original work; and, they communicate their ideas about their own and others' works of art and design. In alignment with the Holy Cross **Portrait of the Crusader**, students learn to be resilient and use feedback from critiques as an opportunity for growth. The classroom environment fosters respect, kindness, and service to others in a collaborative culture in which students assist each other in skill-building with compassion and support.

### Essential Questions for the Course

- What ideas and subjects does the student most want to investigate this year?
- What research will best support this investigation?
- What materials must the artist acquire in order to manifest their vision for the work ?
- What assignments would best support the student's sustained investigation throughout each of the four quarters of the school year?
- How does research into art history inform and support the student's own work and provide context for that work?
- How might the student use personal concerns, popular culture, issues related to current socio political topics and other issues to inform their work, building relevance and a means to artistic self expression?

### Concepts and Skills Developed in the Course

- Formulate questions that guide a sustained investigation in an area of art and design.
- Identify the particular subjects, mediums, ideas, issues and genres of greatest interest.
- Investigate the materials, processes, and ideas that artists use in these areas of concentration.
- Investigate and describe how materials, processes, and ideas in art and design relate to context.
- Develop the ability to create, experiment and revise work based on personal vision and constructive feedback.
- Integrate and synthesize the knowledge gained in all previous art courses to create a personal body of work that most fully expresses individual vision and aesthetic.
- Interpret works of art and design based on materials, processes, and ideas used.
- Communicate ideas about art and art criticism in precise language.

### Course Requirements Each Quarter

- Select the subjects, context, media, forms, and genres for the work and develop a concrete plan for completing this work explaining how the primary focus and sustained investigation will progress through the quarters. This plan must be reviewed with and approved by the teacher at the beginning of the quarter. Students will:
  1. Name each assignment and provide the due date.
  2. Tell the approximate size and medium to be used
  3. Describe learning goals for the work. For example, will the student hone specific skills? Gain new skills in a specific area?
  4. Define the preliminary studies that will be conducted to prepare for each major work.
- Create double-page journal entries each week. This will be due on the last day class meets on any regular 5 day week with the due date being adjusted for short weeks. The purpose of the journal is for the development of visual ideas, serving as a repository for drawings, painting, collage, and work in any medium, including photos, text, markers, ink and anything that will serve the student in terms of inspiring and informing their work.
- Write a museum report which demonstrates an understanding of historical and cultural context, the language of art criticism, and the scope of art throughout history and the world. Students will:
  1. Determine the benefits of viewing original art works in person at a gallery or museum.
  2. Determine what kinds of art the student responds to most evocatively and how might this response inform their own choices of subjects, mediums and aesthetic views.
  3. Explore the elements of art and the principles of art when analyzing and responding to works of art.
- Adhere to due dates and the exact number of assessments each quarter. The number of assessments will depend upon the degree of difficulty and time required for each and will be determined by the instructor after ongoing consultation with the student.

### Portfolio Development

- Set up work with optimum lighting when shooting professional-level photos of work.
- Discuss and write about work in context of process, materials, and personal growth.
- Describe how works of art demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, ideas and skills.
- Present works of art and design for viewer interpretation.

Formative Assessments:

- Formative assessments will be customized for each unit based on the agreed coursework. Each major work will include at least one formative assessment in preparation for the summative assessment.

Summative Assessments:

- Summative Assessments will be customized for each unit based upon agreed coursework.

***Please see the next page for the Museum Report Outline***

## AP STUDIO ART MUSEUM REPORT OUTLINE

- I. Gallery or museum visited, location, date visited
  
- II. Title of exhibit (if a temporary exhibit) or section of the museum (if work is part of a permanent collection)
  
- III. Specific work(s) viewed
  - A. Title
  - B. Medium (ex.- oil, watercolor, mixed media,charcoal)
  - C. Size
  
- IV. Analyze the work and write a few paragraphs describing the work; style, methods of execution, subject matter, and the way the elements of art are used with the principles of art. Answer questions such as:
  - A. *What are the dominant elements visible in the work? Shapes/Forms? Colors? Line? Pattern/Textures? Space? What are the dominant principles in the work?Movement/Rhythm? Harmony? Variety? Emphasis? Proportion?*
  - B. *Which of the 3 aesthetic views is evident in the work? Subject, Content, Abstract*
  
- V. Critique the work and write a paragraph. Answer questions such as:
  - A. *Do you like it?*
  - B. *How does it affect you or make you feel?*
  - C. *How does it affect your thinking, your opinions of the world and, or of art itself?*
  - D. *How does this work influence your AP work?*

