

AP Studio Art is a challenging and rigorous course that has at its core the generation of a substantial body of very high quality works of art. The coursework is expected to be at the college level in terms of its quality in subject, content and form. The program of study follows the course description provided by the College Board. Success in AP Studio Art is dependent upon completing and submitting the prescribed AP Studio Art Portfolio to College Board for official scoring by the first week in May.

The AP Studio Art course addresses three major concerns that are a constant in the teaching of art: (1) a sense of quality in a student's work; (2) the student's concentration on a particular visual interest or problem; and (3) the student's need for breadth of experience in formal, technical, and expressive means of the student's art.

Advanced Placement Studio Art 2D Course Description

The AP Studio Art course requires students to produce a minimum of 24 works of art that mirror issues related to 2-D design to develop technical skills using a variety of the elements of art and principles of design in compositional forms.

Summer Assignments

Visit the AP College Board website to look at other AP studio art portfolios to familiarize yourself with quality of work that you will be expected to create during your course of study. Follow this link: <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com> and continue to the AP Studio Art 2-D Design & Studio Art Drawing courses Home page.

Remember to arrive the first day of class with **3 fully completed assignments** from this list. **Remember each work (3) should reflect at least 8-10 hours of work and consist of quality materials – don't wait until a week before school starts to work on the summer assignments!**

Purchase a sketchbook **Hardbound** size 11"x 14" - bring to the first day of class. By the completion of the summer you should have **10** possible ideas for the **concentration**. During the second week of the semester you will turn in a formal written proposal for your **concentration portfolio**.

The dimensions of all your artworks are as follows: **18"X24" surface or less – nothing larger**. These works must show considerable effort and each reflect a minimum of 8 hours of work and /or research. You may choose the type of surface to work on- paper, cardboard, canvas board, plywood, mat board, etc... Remember to use a variety of media- pencil, colored pencil, acrylics, charcoal, conte` crayon, ink, or pastels to name a few.

SERIES

Create a series of 3 artworks around a theme of your choosing. Consider this a mini concentration. Look at artists who worked in series, such as James Ensor, Andy Warhol, Stella, Mondrian, Matisse, and Picasso.

PORTRAIT

Do a portrait, in the style of another artist in which formal aspects of design are emphasized. Ideas/Examples: Monet/Impressionism, Matisse/Fauvism, Picasso/Cubism, Warhol/Pop Art, Dali/Surrealism, Van Gogh/Post-Impressionism, Research contemporary artist Kehinde Wiley's work etc...You will have to do research to understand the stylistic tendencies of these artists/movements. You can even search on Google Art Projects for different artists. <https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/project/art-project>

SELF-PORTRAIT

Do a self-portrait, or several different ones, that expresses a specific mood/emotion. Ideas/Examples: anger/rage, melancholy/loneliness, happiness/joy, etc... Enhance the psychological atmosphere through the manipulation of light values and color. Create interest by developing an interesting setting/ environment. Draw just a portion of your face – use cropping techniques – breaking up your facial portions into fractions. Try distorting and emphasizing certain facial features for an unusual view. Use different views such as: worm’s eye or bird’s eye views.

STILL-LIFE

Draw a collection of 3 or more objects assembled in a still-life. Pay close attention to your use of lighting, background, and reflections. Train your eye to see details, not what you think you see.

MIXED MEDIA

Do some exploration with mixed media. Do a piece (still-life, landscape, portrait, or self- portrait) in which you use at least three different media such as: a wet medium, a dry medium, and some collage element. Ideas/Examples: adhere/attach (sew, staple, paste, gesso, or use gloss medium) a selection of collage elements of varying thickness, work with the element of art texture and experiment adding texture to the paint like sand or crushed dry leaves.

A “SCAPE”

Find a place around your house or perhaps on your vacation where you think the setting would create a good piece of artwork. This can be a sea-scape, land-scape, your personal e-escape...as long as you are creating from direct observation. I do NOT want a traditional landscape. I DO want you to draw from an interesting perspective, change the colors around or otherwise re-create a traditional “scape” style painting in a new and interesting way.

REFLECTIVE OBJECTS

Do graphite drawing of a still-life arrangement which consists of reflective objectives – convey a convincing representation with a full range of values. To add interest to the art work, you might want to render yourself being reflected in the objects. 6

DISSECTION

Do a study of an object that you have taken apart. Arrange the parts on a surface with other objects related or not related and study the TEXTURAL qualities. Some ideas would be a mechanical object, a child’s toy, a girl’s makeup bag, your bin of art supplies, ingredients for a cooking recipe, a few apples or other fruit cut apart...anything where you are creating a still composition out of something that has been dissected or disassembled. This does not have to be boring! PUT YOUR OWN SPIN ON IT!!!

CLOSE UP ON A PACKAGE OR CAN

This image should touch 3 sides of your surface and emphasize an interesting view point. The package or can may be whole, ripped apart, crushed, or use part of the can or wrapper in your art work.

FIVE CHAIRS

Compile a grouping of 5 or more chairs- chairs can be all the same or a variety of colors, styles, heights, and shapes. Chairs can intersect each other, overlap, or be transparent. This can become a realistic or cubistic piece. Try out different color relationships, for example: make them complimentary, analogous, primary, or triadic.

BE REFLECTIVE

Construct a portrait or self-portrait in a mirror- any kind of mirror- bedroom, bathroom, compact, car, or free standing mirror. Try using an unexpected reflective surface as a mirror such as the back of a spoon, shiny hubcap etc...your imagination is your limit.

FACE

Multiple views of a face- use the same face repeating the image a minimum of 3 times, use overlapping, create repetition and unity in the composition. Emphasize the background with a geometric pattern to contrast the organic features of the face. Think of your own myth involving the imaginary revolt of the following: computers, machines, cell phones, domestic animals, elevators, kitchen appliances, flowers, trees, etc...Remember to use references for this piece. Visualize your idea by making an illustration which makes this event convincing.

PUTTING ON SHOES

Create a piece where a person is putting on socks or shoes. Think about the point of view- where are you the observer positioned? Are you looking from eye level, the ceiling, or are you looking up from the floor at the sole of the shoe. Is the subject's legs bent over or crossed?

CAFÉ DRAWING

Go to a place (any local hangout) where you can sit and sketch for a long period of time over multiple days. In your drawing, convey the essence of this place (café, food truck, local eatery, bookstore, mall, local pool etc...) by drawing people and places you see.

LINE DRAWING

Do a line drawing in ink of a very cluttered area or unusual area of your home or the city. (Inside of a closet, open a drawer, look down the basement steps or up into the attic, inside of the refrigerator)

STORYLINE

Create an artwork that illustrates a story or a person from a story. Rembrandt's many biblical scenes, and James Tissot's prophet series.

Helpful Hints:

1. **Draw directly from life** instead of using reference photos, whenever possible. If you must use a photo, take your own or use a photo from the public domain. Attach the photo to the back of the work. The AP Readers (Judges), as well as art schools love to see a drawing made from life.
2. **Use standard sizes.** Stay within the 18" x 24" size, so that these pieces could be used for the quality section of your portfolio.
4. **Use a sketchbook** to plan your artwork. Make several thumbnails, jot down notes, glue in reference images, and do color studies when needed.
5. **Use a variety of media**, even combining them for mixed media.
6. **Use a complete range of values.** All drawings must be complete with full values – no exceptions!

8. **DO NOT SIGN YOUR NAME TO THE FRONT OF YOUR WORK** or place any identifying marks on the front as per AP Guidelines. Be sure to write your name on the back and **DO NOT FOLD YOUR ARTWORK TO TRANSPORT**, it cannot be used if folded in half.

9. **Visit the AP Central website** for the portfolio you are submitting often to see sample portfolios and to become familiar with requirements.

Have a great summer! Feel free to email me with any questions at *mattie_m_bell@dekalbschoolsga.org*