

# AP Art Summer Assignment

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## *Welcome to Advanced Placement Art!*

This assignment sheet contains assignment information in detail and has content that is tailored to each concentration. Make sure you print and read this document entirely so you understand your specific assignment expectations.

Over the course of the summer, you will complete 1-2 final project assignments (see requirements for photo assignments below) along with a multitude of drawings in your sketchbook. There are several purposes for your summer assignments:

- To help you **generate ideas** in preparation for AP Art
- To give you **one complete project for your concentration portfolio**- you must have 15 total images to submit to the AP college board and these projects will contribute to that number
- To keep you **actively creating** so your skills continue to improve throughout the summer. This way, when you return in the fall, you won't have to start from square one. Sketching and creating keeps you active so you don't get creatively "out of shape", just as you would if you stopped exercising and tried to restart three months later after being completely inactive.

## *Due Date*

The projects you complete will be due by **the second day of school** (we will be reviewing course expectations on the first day- you may bring projects in on the first day if you are worried you'll forget them on the second day) along with your sketches. Your projects and sketches will be the first two grades that will be entered in the gradebook.

I am expecting **quality** work. Typically 10 hours of work per assignment- if your pieces look like you completed them on the way to school, you probably did- and thus, it is implied you will put similar effort into your AP Portfolio. Given this, **failure to complete summer assignments (or completion with poor effort) will result in a recommendation to be removed from the AP Studio Art course where you will be placed in advanced art to better fit your commitment level**

So, with that, as long as you stay on track you'll be just fine! AP Art is an amazing journey where you'll learn much about yourself and the creative process along with having fun with a close knit group of students that are serious about artmaking.

Before you move forward with your assignments, you need to read the portfolio descriptions below and choose the category you feel you will focus on.

### *Concentration Categories*

- **Drawing**- this is a focus on drawing techniques- value, mark making and creating a composition using pencil, paint or other traditional media
- **2D**- collage or use of traditional materials with more of a focus on composition and shape (less focus is placed on texture, mark making and technique which makes this different than the drawing portfolio), printmaking, painting, photography and digital art
- **3D**- ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, etc.

### *Supplies you'll need*

- A sketchbook (I recommend the light blue Canson mixed media sketchbooks, 8x10 size or larger)
- Various art supplies, depending on the projects you create

### *Helpful Hints*

- Make sure you consider quality of your work. Although I understand cost may be a factor, creating a nice drawing on a flimsy piece of construction paper may not be a good choice since it needs to last for portfolio review. For good drawings, I recommend drawing paper that is at least 80 lb. or a stretched canvas for painting.
- Draw directly from observation or take photos to use for reference. If you must use photos from the internet, use stock photos or other copyright free images and have several images you're using as a resource- not just one. I will always ask to see your resources and will be concerned if you don't have any images you're referencing.
- Art plagiarism is serious (just like if you copied a paper) and could disqualify you from college credit if you are found guilty of copying a photo or artwork in any way. It's okay to be inspired by a work of art and to use similar techniques or subject matter, but you must make it your own.
- Make several sketches before you create your work. This will help you practice and plan- make sure you include notes. If you have a great idea, write it in your sketchbook! Sometimes a random idea from months past comes in handy when you feel lost or out of ideas.
- Make your work 18"x24" or smaller- this is the size limit for work that will be mailed to the College Board for review.
- Use a variety of media- trying new things and experimenting with media and techniques.
- Spend at least ten hours per piece. Although ten hours seems like a long time, you'll typically spend about five hours in class each week and will work for around five hours outside of class. Good work involves skill and skill takes time to develop!
- Do not sign the front of your work- work should not contain any identifying information as stated in the AP submission guidelines.

- Look at art! Go to the art museum, art galleries, even look at art if you go to a festival! Do sketches of things that inspire you in your sketchbook or snap a quick picture (if you're allowed- some places do not allow photography)
- Search the internet- google landscape artists, portrait artists, etc. to find artists that you like. Write their names down so you can look their work up at a later time.
- Visit the AP website or google AP art portfolios. Looking at work of other students will help you churn up ideas and become more familiar with the expectations of the AP portfolio.
  - <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/studiodrawing>
  - <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/studio3d>
  - <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/studio2d>

Each section's assignments are outlined in the categories below. You are only required to complete assignments in your chosen portfolio section. **Please choose one to two projects to complete.** These projects are considered "final projects" so they should take time!

## *Drawing Portfolio*

The drawing portfolio is focused around mark making and the idea that the mark is visible and refined- make sure you're indicating value and have noticeable texture and marks as this will distinguish a drawing portfolio from a 2D portfolio.

Choose from the prompts below to create two separate assignments:

- Choose five objects from around your house. Arrange them in an interesting composition- play with how you've set them up- google Still Life Drawing- notice there are objects sitting at different levels, objects overlap one another and don't sit in a straight line.
- Find a reflective object. Draw it, along with what is being reflected in the object. The reflection is always a distortion of your surroundings so play around with your surroundings to see what reflection you feel works best. Resource: M.C. Escher
- Create a landscape drawing- consider your perspective, try sitting at a few different places before you decide where to start your drawing. Include overlapping and depth
- Create a drawing that is up close and detailed of an object in nature. Resources: Georgia O'Keeffe, Dennis Wojtkiewicz
- Find an object that you enjoy- maybe a teapot or an old cassette player- the thrift store is a good place to find something that is exciting and inexpensive. Draw your item as realistically as you possibly can. Include value shifts- shine a light on your object or open your curtains to create a strong contrast. Include the surface this object is sitting on in your drawing. Resources: Marcello Barenghi, Pedro Campos, Jason de Graaf
- Café drawing (or any other local hangout): go to a place where you can sit and sketch for a long period of time. Capture the essence of this place (local eatery/café, bookstore, mall, etc.) by drawing the people and places you see.

- Create a self-portrait, using your reflection in an unusual surface, something other than a normal mirror. This could be a metal appliance (toaster, blender), a computer monitor, a broken or warped mirror, a car's rear view mirror, or tinted windows.
- Place 3 eggs on a towel, cloth or crumpled paper (preferably patterned) to create an interesting composition. Draw in pencil OR colored pencil. Pay attention to the smoothness of the eggs against the rough quality of the towel or paper. Use a light source and a variety of values.

## *2D Portfolio (includes Photo & Graphic Design)*

Choose from the prompts below to create one - two separate assignments:

- Make a collage of a landscape, which has a wooded scene, flowers, and foliage. Cut and tear papers of various textures and colors to create a sense of dimension with the use of light and shadow. Your collage papers could consist of magazine images, wallpaper, or photographs you've taken.
- Slice some vegetables or fruit in half. Examine the layers and curves and seeds that a pepper, an onion, a mushroom, an orange, a pomegranate, or apple might have. Create a collage using cut colored paper, photocopies or scanned images of the items. You could also take photos of the items and print your photos to collage with or draw on top of. Distort them, shrink them using the computer or photocopier. Create a piece out of any or all of the above suggested techniques.
- Research and create a Pop-inspired work while incorporating personal symbols or words. Resources: Andy Warhol, Robert Indiana, Ed Ruscha
- Research the surrealist artists (historical and contemporary). Read what the surrealists state about their work. Create a work in the surrealist style. You may want to do this as a mixed media piece. You could also create a collage, draw the collage you created, and use varying colors or techniques to render the collage in a new way.
- Go someplace fun- the fair, the circus- take lots of pictures of anything you find intriguing. Create a stylized pastel drawing of your favorite photo or memory.
- Create a self portrait using a monochromatic or analogous color scheme.
- Draw a close-up of a face, architectural details, textural surfaces, interesting lighting and compositions. Resources: Simon Lewis, Diane Arbus, and Annie Leibovitz

### *Additional information for Photo portfolios*

- If you are submitting a photography portfolio instead of the above prompts you will be responsible for three series that each contain 5-7 fully edited images. For each series you should do a pre shoot that includes at least 20+ images. Then choose your best 5-7 to edit. You will submit the pre shoot images as well, totaling 60, along with your final edited ones. Each series needs to have a short paragraph statement written that states your purpose/goal for the series. If you have trouble thinking of a prompt feel free to take a photo spin on the 2D prompts listed above.

- If you don't have Photoshop at home, you can download a program that is similar. Gimp is a free software program and has many of the same commands as Photoshop.
- Play around with Photoshop or Gimp- become more familiar with the commands and tools, practice will help you work more efficiently and your skills will improve. Work on knowing the key shortcuts- this helps you create work much more efficiently.
- Youtube is a great tool for you to look up techniques and commands you want to learn
- If you're taking pictures, always take more than you need. You'll never regret having too many photos!
- Take your camera with you everywhere- opportunities are always around so it's best to be prepared
- Spend time sketching out planned photos. Candid and unplanned photos are excellent, but many photos by famous photographers are staged and it takes many shots before a photo is exactly the way the artist planned.

### *3D Portfolio*

For this section, you may take clay and tools with you to use over the summer, if you wish. You will bring complete pieces back to school to be fired and will glaze them when you return.

Choose from the prompts below to create two separate assignments:

- An architectural model of a building. You could use Popsicle sticks, matches, toothpicks, dowel rods, mat board or cardboard (or any combination of). This should be the exterior structure only. References: Frank Gehry, Frank Lloyd Wright, or Philip Johnson.
- Create a sculpture using found items- things you find while walking outside or items in the junk drawer at your house will work. Resources: Julio Gonzales, Richard Chamberlain, or Robert Rauschenberg
- Make a paper maché sculpture of an everyday object- a shoe, a laptop, a TV remote- make all aspects three dimensional (buttons, shoe laces) and paint it to look like the object you've modeled. Resource: Trompe l'oeil art
- Roll out coils to build a clay bust (shoulders, neck and head)- stuff with newspaper as you work so your form does not cave in. Make sure you spray your piece and keep it covered until it is completely finished. Once complete, leave a bag draped over it so it can dry slowly. Resources: Crystal Morey, Adrian Arleo, Michelangelo
- Create a sculpture from items found in nature- if you aren't able to save the sculpture, take at least 10 photographs from various angles and in good lighting for your records. Resources: Deborah Butterfield, Andy Goldsworthy, Tim Pugh
- Create an item from nature using manmade materials. Examples: flowers made of bolts and nails, an animal constructed with computer parts, a human figure made of glass bottles. It may be your desire to combine several small items to create a collection of sculptures. Height: 10" minimum excluding the base.

## All Portfolios

You must complete at least **5 sketchbook assignments** to turn in. You can choose from the prompt list below or may come up with your own! Please **write the prompt** and sketch # at the top of the page that contains your drawing. Each sketch should take approximately 30 minutes or more to complete. Project idea sketches count toward your 5 sketches. Working in your sketchbook is a great practice, the more drawings you can do the better your art will be! Sketches must be done in your sketchbook- drawings in a computer program do not count as sketches. These should be well thought out and show brainstorming and practice of your skills.

- A family photo...of pets or insects
- Fresh fruit or vegetables
- Negative space only
- An animal playing a musical instrument
- A pile of shoes
- Something ugly
- Something boring
- Your dream car
- A mysterious doorway or staircase
- Something reflective
- Someone playing a game
- Your favorite song
- Your meal
- Junk mail
- A clock
- A new book cover design for any book you wish
- Create a stencil. Use it to make a pattern all over your sketchbook page
- Use old notes from a class and incorporate them into a sketch
- Make a drawing based off of another artist's work; your interpretation of the work
- A pile of kitchen utensils or silverware
- A piece of fruit every day as it ripens
  - Something or someone you love
- Your hand or foot
  - Someone sleeping
- Something beautiful
- Your greatest fear
- Your dream house
- Nature
  - Yourself
- An insect
  - A chair
  - Your house
  - Your art supplies
  - Random objects you find at the park

## Overall Assignment Summary

1. Choose your portfolio concentration (this can always change)
2. Complete at least one assignments from your concentration category (you can do more)
3. Complete at least 5 sketchbook assignments (these should be full page and good quality)
4. All assignments are due on the **second day of school** and count as your first grades for the quarter.
5. Projects are each worth 100 points. Sketchbook drawings are each worth 10 points.
6. Failure to complete all summer assignments will result in removal from the AP Studio Art course and you will be placed in advanced art.

If you have any questions about any of your assignments, feel free to send me an email or Remind message at any time. See you in the Fall!

Mrs. Lamb