

Mr. Knight
Natomas High School
AP Art and Design

AP Syllabus

AP Art and Design students are expected to be self-motivated, organized, and able to work independently. Only students who have completed Art 2 / Design 2 with acceptable grades will be offered a position as an AP art student. AP Art students are expected to have intermediate-advanced drawing skills and design skills. AP Art and Design students are expected to understand how the **elements** (line, shape, color, value, texture, and space) and **principles** (pattern, rhythm/movement, proportion/scale, balance, unity, and emphasis) of art are used as tools to create and discuss works of art and design.

AP Art students will be expected to research artists that will be assigned by the teacher. Artists will be chosen/assigned based on the similarities or direction as per the teacher's recommendation. Students will be expected to explore and investigate professional artists to help in generating new ideas, refining in-process ideas, and fostering a deeper understanding of materials, and processes. AP students will be expected to share their findings in a slide show and short presentation as part of their small group work. AP students may also be asked to work in a particular style of an artist that is being researched. While working in an artist style the student will be asked to create a series of projects that show exploration of process, interpretation, and materials. AP Art and Design students will have access to books, magazines, reproductions, and online media. The research will be used to generate the overarching direction of the portfolio. Examples of resources could include ARTnews, Juxtapoz, Photoshop(magazine), websites, textbooks, artist's biographies, etc.

AP Art and Design students will be required to keep a sketchbook. The sketchbook is the place where ideas can be captured and explored. Sketchbooks are not for finished drawings. The sketchbook will be assessed based on the evidence of how often the student is using it to refine their ideas.

AP art and Design students will also be required to complete assignments given in class. In-class assignments may be used as part of the AP portfolio that will be submitted. Students will be encouraged to practice through making. Students will be encouraged to experiment. Students will be encouraged to revise. These processes will be done through the lens of the creative process. Skill and techniques will be developed via sketching, research, creating the first solution, critiquing, revision, and finally with the creation of the final piece. These skills are how students gain an understanding of how the synthesis of the materials, process, and ideas work to create the meaning and/or a message of the art piece. The resulting pieces will be used to create the AP Art portfolio, which will include a Sustained Investigation (a collection of pieces that all address a single Essential Question) and Select Works (a group of unrelated pieces of very high quality).

AP Art and Design students will have access to digital cameras and a computer equipped with image editing software and an internet connection as well as a digital projector and screen for viewing and discussing works of art and design. Students will use technology to assist in documenting, sharing, discussing, creating, and presenting their ideas.

AP Art and Design students will be encouraged to use Photoshop to format, edit, and refine traditional and digital works. Students will be encouraged to use other applications and programs that they are comfortable with.

AP Art and Design students will participate in a weekly critique to allow the teacher and other students an opportunity to develop each student's inquiry and promote investigation. Critiques will be written in a graphic organizer provided by the teacher to help students direct their comments, build stronger ideas, and hone visual literacy. Students will also reflect on their own creative development. Students will be asked to explain/justify their choice of materials and techniques. Critiques will be done in a gallery walk format with a Socratic seminar to share and support.

The teacher will guide students in "Identifying, in writing, questions that guided a sustained investigation through art and design" **or** 3.B ("Describe, in writing, how a sustained investigation through art and design shows evidence of practice, experimentation, and revision guided by questions"). Brainstorming will be done via activities such as mind maps, or graphic organizers of in-process notes that discuss materials, processes, and ideas.

AP Art and Design students will be responsible for managing their time to ensure all work is complete. AP Art and Design students will work independently in a project-based, hands-on studio class environment. AP Art and Design students will be encouraged to experiment with new ideas and techniques. AP Art and Design students will be encouraged to investigate new materials. Natomas Unified will supply all the required materials. If students would like to bring their own supplies they are welcome to. The teacher will provide one-on-one checks for understanding to assure students are meeting AP standards and focused on essential questions. The teacher will also give suggestions for improving techniques and guidance as students develop their portfolio.

AP Art and Design students will be responsible for developing their own essential questions that will bring a purpose/direction for their sustained investigation. The portfolio will show a deep understanding of a central theme. The student will demonstrate their exploration and revisions via visual art as well as written reflections. Written reflections will be guided by critiques and requirements set forth by the AP college board.

AP Art and Design students will understand what constitutes plagiarism. Students will learn how to create their own work. Students will go beyond duplicating existing artworks, to creating unique, fresh ideas. The teacher will ensure that students are creating their own work by asking students to work in series, or having students work a similar idea in several different media. Students will learn how to document a source of inspiration in order to give the original creator due credit. Students will demonstrate how they have changed or reworked other artist's ideas to make the idea their own. Sketchbooks will also serve as a vehicle to connect students thinking to their sustained investigation. It is unethical, constitutes plagiarism, and often violates copyright law simply to copy someone else's work or imagery (even in another medium) and represent it as one's own." Plagiarism websites such as tineye.com will be used to stop forgeries.

Any work that makes use of (appropriates) photographs, published images, and/or the work of someone else must show substantial and significant development beyond duplication. This is demonstrated through the manipulation of the materials, processes, and/or ideas of the source. The student's individual vision should be clearly evident. It is unethical, constitutes plagiarism, and often violates copyright law simply to copy someone else's work or imagery (even in another medium) and represent it as one's own.

When submitting their portfolios, students must attest: "I hereby affirm that all works in this portfolio were done by me and that these images accurately represent my actual work."