

Ballard High School AP Drawing Syllabus

Mr. Harkleroad msharkleroad@seattleschools.org

Course Description

This course is designed for the serious art student who is prepared to focus on their art and develop mastery in composition, concept, and execution of work in the realm of drawing and painting. Students will develop a body of work over the span of one school year, continually building upon new insights and skills that will come from teacher and student directed critiques as well as their on-going explorations through a range of drawing projects. Students will focus their exploration on mark-making, line, surface, space, light and shade, and composition. Students will submit a portfolio of their work at the end of the school year that will include examples of *quality, concentration, and breadth*.

Portfolio Components: Quality, Concentration, and Breadth

There are three major components of the AP Art Studio course: an overall sense of **quality** in the student work, a **concentration** or body of work that explores an original visual idea through the visual form of drawing, and the demonstration of **breadth**: a range of abilities, techniques in drawing, as well as a level of risk taking.

Quality:

Students must submit five actual works of art that successfully demonstrate overall mastery of Drawing. These pieces can come from the breadth or concentration section of the student's portfolio but don't have to be. The work may be related but doesn't need to be.

Concentration:

Students must submit twelve digital images that thoroughly investigate an original theme or visual idea through the visual form of drawing. Through both student and teacher lead critique, in addition to thorough personal reflection and investigation, students will identify a visual idea that they wish to pursue. Further, students will develop and execute a coherent plan of action to achieve their goals.

Potential topics for Concentration might include:

- Design and execution of a children's book
- Political cartoons using current events and images
- Series of works starting with representational interpretations and evolving into abstraction
- Exploration of pattern and designs found in nature and/or culture
- Abstractions developed from cells and other microscopic images
- A personal or family history communicated through symbols or imagery
- Use of multiple modules to create compositions that reflect narrative or psychological events.
- Series of landscapes that use color and composition to intensify artistic Expression

Breadth:

Students submit twelve images of twelve different works, which demonstrate an understanding of the elements and principles of design within the context of drawing. This part of the portfolio should show process, growth, and discovery as well as a range of abilities, techniques, and a high level of risk taking. Breadth may be achieved in these drawing studies with the use of one medium of a variety of media.

Potential topics for Breadth might include:

- Minimalism
- Academic still life drawn from observation
- Design a tarot card
- Pure abstraction
- Emulation of an artist or movement
- The grid
- Non-traditional materials
- Etc.

Content of the Class

The course includes the following three components:

- Study of contemporary artists and movements. In addition to class work, students are expected to visit galleries and the local art museums on their own plus read materials from the recommended reading lists.
- A sketchbook to be composed of visual ideas, notes, photos, doodles, plans, short assignments, quick drawings, critiques, and practice of various techniques to help students build depth and meaning to their artwork.
- Development of the student's portfolio for AP Drawing or Design.

Critiques

Students will have regular small-group, class, peer and one-on-one teacher critiques of their work. By the end of the year students will be able to discuss their work as well as the work of others thoughtfully and with the ability to use the elements of art and principles of design.

Copyright

All work must be original. If students use someone else's work or a published image as a basis for their own pieces, there must be significant alteration to the piece for it to be considered original! During individual as well as group discussions and critiques, students will develop an understanding of what constitutes plagiarism and how to maintain their own artistic integrity. Copyright issues are discussed with the students early on—they are made aware of the legal issues involved with working from someone's published work.

Course Schedule

Check the AP website frequently for all important dates regarding deadlines for registration and submission dates. **Students will be required to turn in a Portfolio PowerPoint to Mr. Harkleroad by the end of the school year.**

Summer Assignment: Elements & Principles Deck

This assignment should be completed for the first day of class in September. You will receive a grade for your summer work. AP Studio Art requires a significant amount of time outside of class to meet the requirements of the AP program. Be prepared to spend 2-5 hours a week during the summer and 6-8 hours a week during the school year.

Below is the list of the elements and principles of design that the College Board will hold you responsible for showing mastery of in your portfolios. Note that some of the elements and principles are slightly different than what you may have studied with me or in other classes.

Elements of Design

- Line
- Shape
- Color
- Value
- Texture
- Space
- Form

Principles of Design

- Contrast
- Proportion
- Emphasis
- Balance
- Unity
- Variety
- Repetition
- Movement

For your summer assignment, you will illustrate how each of the 7 elements of design might be expressed through each of the 8 principles of design, for a total of 56 illustrations.

For example:

- How will you use the *element* **line** to express the *principles* **contrast** or **movement**?
- How is the *principle* of **proportion** expressed differently using the *elements* of **color** or **space**?

Please, in some way, label each illustration.

Your project can take the form of a deck of cards. If you prefer, you may create a small book or use another format. However, I suggest keeping them small. 😊

You may use any media or materials that you would like. ***Craftsmanship and creativity count!***

Be creative! Let your knowledge, understanding and personal artistic voice come through in your project.

Included on the following page is a thumbnail chart that you can use for planning and brainstorming. ***It is not intended to be used in your final project.***

You can use the thumbnail chart below to plan and brainstorm your illustrations.

	Contrast	Proportion	Emphasis	Balance	Unity	Variety	Repetition	Movement
Line								
Shape								
Value								
Color								
Space								
Form								
Texture								

45 points

Dear Parents and Guardians,

According to new school regulations, we are no longer allowed to “charge” a lab fee for students taking AP Studio Art. However, there is still no funding allocated to run an AP Studio Art program. For this reason, I am strongly encouraging all students taking AP Studio Art to consider making a “donation” of \$30/ semester or \$60 for the entire year to the Art Department.

Over the past few years, the cost of many of the supplies that we use for AP Studio Art has gone way up and there is simply no way that we can run an AP Studio Art without your donations. **Also, if at all possible, I am asking families who are financially able to consider sending more than the minimum \$60 donation.**

Your donations will not only go towards the purchase of supplies but will enhance your child’s learning experience in AP Studio Art and afford us the ability to continue our program. You may pay your donations **by check** (made payable to Ballard High School) or **online!** Just log in to The Source and then click the **SchoolPay** Link.

Thank you for your consideration,

Matt Harkleroad

msharkleroad@seattleschools.org

I plan to pay my donation with:

- ☐ Check (made payable to Ballard High school)
- ☐ SchoolPay (online)

Return this page with your lab donation (\$30/semester or \$60 for the entire year) by Friday, September 29, 2023.

Student:

I _____, on _____, 2023 have read and understand the rules, policies, and information contained within this document.

Parent/Guardian:

I _____ on _____, 2023 have read and understand the rules, policies, and information contained within this document.