

Montclair High School

Course Syllabus

Department: VPA

Course: Art Foundations

Level: Academic/Honors*

Credits: 2.5

Course Description:

Art Foundations is a course designed to introduce the Fine Arts to students through a hands on studio experience. Students will develop the fundamental skills needed for a solid foundation in the visual arts. The Elements of Art and the Principles of Design will be introduced through the exciting exploration of various 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional media and techniques. Composition, observation and rendering skills will be emphasized. The structure of the class will consist of guided exercises, hands on studio projects, artist videos, group discussions and critique.

Standards:

NJCCCS 1.1 The Creative Process; 1.2 History of the Arts and Culture; 1.3 Performing;
1.4 Aesthetic Responses & Critique Methodologies

Anchor Text(s):

None

Supplementary Materials:

Artist and Art Movement videos, current art publications/artist prints and images, Internet resources

Units of Study:

- Elements of Art (Line, Shape, Form, Value, Color, Texture, Space)
- Principles of Design (Balance, Unity, Contrast, Emphasis, Pattern, Movement, Rhythm)
- Color Theory ((Hue, Value, Intensity, Tints, Shades)
- Perspective (One and Two Point)
- Composition
- Art History
- Critique

Proficiencies:

- By the end of this course, students will:
- Demonstrate knowledge of the Elements of Art
- Demonstrate knowledge of the Principles of Design
- Exhibit development of art skill and art language
- Understand and skillfully apply various techniques and technologies in the production and presentation of artwork
- Have knowledge of the rules of composition in art and apply those rules to their own artworks
- Refine their perceptual, intellectual, physical and technical skills through the creation of art
- Have an understanding of art in a historic context and appreciation for artistic accomplishments throughout the ages

- Think, write and speak about artwork critically and fluently

Evaluation & Assessment:

Student learning incorporates a variety of methods, strategies, and skills. To accurately evaluate student achievement, various methods of alternative assessment will be employed in the evaluation and assessment of students, including:

- **Projects (40%)**– projects are assigned as both instructional tools and instruments for assessment. Projects are assessed on an individual basis and evaluated based on the following criteria: following directions, skill and development, creativity and originality, craftsmanship, and completion of project
- **Classwork (30%)** – an integral aspect of the learning process, allowing students to demonstrate their ongoing understanding of content and concepts taught. Classwork includes demonstration of a cooperative attitude and contribution to the learning process of the class, proper utilization of class time, attendance and punctuality, proper uses of materials and supplies, studio set-up and cleanup, and participation in class discussions and critiques.
- **Homework (10%)**– enables students to exercise and reinforce their knowledge and understanding of skills taught in class, as well as preparation and/or research for projects to be executed in class
- **Tests/Quizzes (20%)** – as assessment of cumulative knowledge and understanding of a unit of study/evaluation of short-term knowledge and understanding of homework assignments and class lessons

* Students may opt to contract up to an Honors Level. Specific requirements are reviewed at the beginning of the semester. A contract, which has been signed by both the student and their parent/guardian, is kept on file by the teacher for the duration of the course.