

Course Syllabus

Instructor

Mr. McVitty

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Honors Art Humanities

Duration

18 weeks - 1 credit

Grades

11th - 12th

Course Description

Prerequisites: *Suggested - "B" Average or higher GPA*

Are you interested in art, but feel you lack artistic ability? Are you a skilled art student who wants to learn more about famous art and artists? Rather than dealing with the making of art, this is a course about art. Learn the stories behind some famous masterpieces. Discover how and why humans have created art since the earliest times. Reflect on the historical significance of art, and consider how art relates to the world around us. Open to anyone who meets the GPA requirement for an honors course.

Course Delivery

With the integration of technology into the classroom, course information (assignment sheets, grade sheets, due dates, course materials) will be delivered in several ways:

In Person

Through face to face interactions. This includes live demos, direct instruction, and conversations as you work in the studio. It is the student's responsibility to ask questions when they don't understand or need help.

Online

Through the use of Google and a Course Wiki page, course material may be "flipped", meaning that some materials that would be traditionally delivered in the lecture format may be delivered through YouTube videos or other means.

Google Classroom

All materials for class that used to be handed out on paper (i.e. assignment sheets, grade sheets, critique forms, etc.) will be distributed electronically. In addition, one of the features of Classroom is that a calendar is created that students can access with due dates on it. It is the responsibility of the student to check the Google Classroom site and be aware of due dates and course materials.

ASPEN

Grades will be posted in ASPEN. If you see any discrepancies in your grade please alert Mr. McVitty ASAP! If you see an "M" (Missing grade) in ASPEN that means that your assignment is missing and you have an opportunity to make up the work. An "M" calculates as a zero until the work is made up. If the grade is a zero, then you have missed a deadline, did not make prior arrangements, or failed to make up work in a timely manner. A grade of zero is non negotiable.

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Classroom Expectations & Rules

Be on time

- You need to be to class on time. If you are going to be late get a pass. You will be written up for being late more than once.

NO!

- The following things will not be tolerated in class: No Food, No Drinks (Without a nurses note), and Absolutely no Texting! If you are caught with any of these things you will be written up.

You are expected to be courteous

- You need to show respect to get respect. You need to use proper manners in class. Ask for things, do not presume to tell me or anyone else in class what you are or aren't going to do. Respect other students in the room and the projects that are out in the room. Help each other out when possible. Seats are assigned at the beginning of class. It is up to the class as to whether you will get to choose your own seats. You may listen to music from an MP3 or iPod as long as you are using headphones and you are not texting.

You are expected to be responsible

- You, and only you, are responsible for the grades that you receive, the work that you do or do not do, work that you miss due to absence, and maintaining your storage and workspace. You are also responsible for your behavior.

You are responsible for the digital content provided in this course

- Course information is located on the Google Classroom page along with due dates and links to course materials. The course will be delivered in person and digitally. You are responsible to complete all assignments.
- If you miss a day of class, information will be provided through Classroom. If you are having trouble accessing the information you need to talk to me immediately.

You are expected to communicate with Mr. McVitty

- If you are having trouble meeting a deadline for an assignment you need to talk to me prior to the deadline. **If you talk to me before the deadline we can work on renegotiating the deadline. If you do not talk to me prior to the deadline a zero will be entered.**

You are expected to be unique and self expressive with your projects

- Your work needs to be your own. NO copyrighted or trademarked images may be incorporated in any project.

You are expected to push yourself

- Not doing work or just doing the minimum is not disrespectful to me it is disrespectful of yourself. You owe it to yourself to push yourself so that your abilities improve. **MISTAKES ARE ALLOWED! Learn from them!**

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Your Course Grade

Your grade in this course is based on the following categories:

Quarter Grades

Reflections (30%)

- This category will be based on the work that you complete for the section reflections during class. There will be eight in total for the semester.

Written Performance (20%)

- This category consists of any written assignments during the semester

Class Performance (20%)

- This category reflects your participation in class discussions and your preparedness in having work completed on time and ready for class.

Image/Vocab Exams (15%)

- This category is based on your scores on image and vocabulary exams. You will have several of these throughout both quarters of the class.

Projects (15%).

- This category consists of grades for the handful of projects that you will complete during the course.

Final Exam

You will have a final exam that focuses on the projects that you completed as well as terms and concepts covered during the course.

Grade Calculation

Quarter Grade

To calculate your grade for the quarter use the following formula:

$\begin{array}{r} \text{Reflections} \times .3 \\ + \text{Written Performance} \times .2 \\ + \text{Class Performance} \times .2 \\ + \text{Image/Vocab Exams} \times .15 \\ + \text{Projects} \times .15 \\ \hline \text{Quarter Grade} \end{array}$

Grade Calculation (Continued)

Course Grade

Your overall grade for the course (F1) is based on the following values: Quarter Grade= 80%, Final Exam (E1)= 20%

$\begin{array}{r} \text{Q1/Q3 Grade} \times .4 \\ + \text{Q2/Q4 Grade} \times .4 \\ + \text{Final Exam} \times .2 \\ \hline \text{Semester Grade} \end{array}$
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Course Outline

The following is a list of the assignments that you will be completing during this course. Each assignment contains a brief description of the assignment/project.

-Quarter 1/3-

Section 1: Understanding Art

In this section we will look at foundational topics that will be used during the course. We will organize image and vocabulary cards to help with studying, introduce Humanities, Explore art, develop a visual vocabulary and learn how to talk about art effectively.

Section 2: The Day Pictures Were Born

Can you imagine a world before pictures and art were invented? This is what we are going to explore in this section. Why did humans start to create? Is it learned or inherited?

Section 3: More Human than Human

Why do humans exaggerate the human form? While you might think this is only something in a photoshopped world it's been happening for more than 20,000 years. We will explore theories as to why this might happen.

Section 4: The Classics

In this section we are going to look at the Greek and Roman cultures. These are the foundational cultures for modern Western Civilizations and we will explore their influence on today's societies.

Section 5: The Art of Persuasion

In this section we are going to explore how art has been used to persuade. We will look at ancient examples of political logos, propaganda from World War II and modern political propaganda.

-Quarter 2/4-

Section 6: The Art of Storytelling

Art tells us a story. It may be a popular story, or art that depicts a day in the life of a community. It may be a painting that portrays visions, or painting of a Spanish town that was bombed by the Nazis during the Spanish civil war. We will look at how art tells our stories.

Section 7: The Art of Death

Art has been used as part of observances and celebrations of death. Art can console us, celebrate the life of our loved ones, or warn us about living a dishonest life.

Section 8: Out of Darkness

In this section we will look at Medieval Europe, one thousand years of the "Dark Ages", and how the Renaissance brought us out of that darkness.

Section 9: Revolution and the "-isms"

This section will explore the extravagance of Rococo that led to the French Revolution. Out of this revolution the "-isms" begin.

Section 10: The Second Creative Explosion

Early in the class we discuss the "Creative Explosion". In 1905 art begins to see multiple movements happening simultaneously. Some movements are reactions to others while some are logical progressions. We will take a brief look at this second creative explosion.

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Mid-Term/Final Exam

You will have a mid-term exam and a final exam that focus on the concepts, artists and art work covered in class. The mid-term exam will only focus on the first quarter of the class, the final will focus on the second half. The mid-term exam grade and the final exam grade will be added together to make the final exam grade that appears on your report card.

****Note:** You may be working on multiple assignments at any one time. I will be guiding you through the time management for this class. If you fall behind on one assignment, it may affect the others. If you miss class be prepared to have to make up the work at home on your time.