

# **AP Art Summer Assignments**

## **Due Date Friday, August 12: Art Studio**

The work this summer will give you a head start on your work during the school year. As an AP art student, you are asked to emphasize research, experimentation, exploration, discovery, inventive thinking, and problem solving.

We will discuss these projects, sketches, written work, and ideas as a class at the beginning of the year. You will be graded on this just as you would if you were at school. These are required. If you do not complete these assignments and failure to earn a grade of 80 or above on these pieces will necessitate your removal from AP art. Also, do not bring in incomplete artwork. I have heard the excuse, "I didn't know what to do to finish it, and I didn't want to ruin it" toooooo many times. Figure it out or call me. Text me or your fellow AP girls a picture if you need critique or need to ask a question.

This will require approximately 7 hours a week. DO NOT TRY TO DO THIS ALL IN JULY. I'M SO SERIOUS. Work a little everyday like it's your job. I suggest first thing in the morning before you get busy with other things! Set some goals for yourself before the summer begins so that you will get your work done without rushing that last week before they are due. Post those goals where you can see them every day. Create a group chat with each other and hold each other accountable. Make your first piece a fun one that you will enjoy and will set the tone for the whole summer art experience.

### **Next year:**

TIME- I can't say this enough. This class is not easy. It will involve more time than you think. If you expect to work for 5 hours in class on each piece, you will not pass. Each finished piece should look like something found in a professional gallery. Little, quick, easy, did it last night- there just isn't room for these in the AP art world. You should be spending 10-15 hours on EVERY piece. You will have to stay after school or stay in the art room during flex time. You will have to work at home. You will have to work. A LOT. EVERY DAY. The judges are teachers and college professors. They KNOW how much time is invested in each piece. THEY CAN TELL. It is hard but it is rewarding and you **YOU CAN DO THIS!!!**

If you have any questions regarding summer artwork please call/text me at (901) 488-5081 or email me at [gcrittendon@saa-sds.org](mailto:gcrittendon@saa-sds.org)

**There are 3 parts that you are required to work on:**

## **Researching, Making and sketching**

This summer you will spend time on drawings/paintings, sketchbook research ideas and photography.

ALL OF YOUR WORK MUST BE COMPLETELY ORIGINAL AND NOT COPIED FROM OTHER ARTISTS OR PHOTOGRAPHS. YOU MAY WORK FROM YOUR OWN PHOTOGRAPHS ONLY. Don't even try to get around this rule. IF I haven't seen the piece before, one of the judges might have. THEY WON'T SCORE AT ALL IF THEY THINK YOU PLAGIARIZED!!!! It would be such a shame to spend so much of your time on something and not even have it count in your portfolio.

## **Part 1: Research**

### **Research:**

- Explore the work of one contemporary artists.
- Write information about the artist.
  - o Website
  - o Describe the artist's work. Sketch it. Experiment in your sketchbook with the artist's chosen medium.
  - o React to their work. Write at least a paragraph about what you love or hate or want to see more of or how you could use it in your own work.
  - o You can include printed images/text in addition to your own writing and drawing.
  - o Use as many pages as needed.
  - o Have fun in your sketchbook! Use a variety of media. This your place to experiment and practice.



## **Part 2: Making**

Choose **two** projects from the sections below. Each piece of art should be a complete work of art, carefully planned, well composed, and skillfully executed. You must create 3 very good thumbnails for each composition. These will be part of your grade. The thumbnails should show exploration of your idea. Do not create an object in the middle of the paper or canvas and call it a complete work. Draw or paint a complete composition with a background and what surrounds the object. Remember everything we learned about putting the elements together to create a compelling arrangement. Think about emphasis before you begin. What is the most important part of the composition and how are you going to create that emphasis? How will you create unity and balance? Look at your finished work and ask yourself if there is enough contrast to create form. Try not to have equal amounts of light, dark, and medium values. Do you have negative spaces? Are they interesting shapes? Are they different sizes? Choose two assignments from the following:

1. Draw a portrait of someone you know on brown paper or gray paper in black and white charcoal. It must be at least 16" x 20" but no larger than 18" x 24". Use the brown or gray paper as the mid-tone in your work. Remember the rule of thirds/ variety/ placement. Don't place your figure smack in the middle of the page.



2. Draw or paint an ordinary object in such a way that it becomes important and extraordinary. You can make it extraordinary by:

- An unusual and dynamic composition or perspective
- Expressive but meaningful color
- Strong contrasts – strong lighting
- Distortion
- Placing the object in an unusual setting.
- Interesting shapes created by lighting or overlapping
- Some other compelling idea of your own



3. In pencil, paint, colored pencil, or pastel draw a reflection of yourself in a shiny object. (A toaster, the chrome bumper on a car, etc.) Be sure and consider the composition and the surrounding shapes and spaces. Give it a feeling of place.





4. Using acrylic or watercolor, paint a reflection of fruit in a silver or very shiny bowl or pitcher. Use a background color to create drama and emphasis. Be sure and consider the composition and the surrounding shapes and spaces. Notice how the shape of the container distorts the objects that are reflected. Also notice that the reflected color is different from the original.



5. Paint a Memphis street scene from a photograph that you take. You must include cars, street, sign, lights buildings. This must be from your own photograph and you must bring in the photograph.



### **PART 3: SKETCHBOOK and PHOTOGRAPHY WORK**

- Drawing- at least **5 pages**- see notes below

Your sketchbook should be a living thing that you take care of, keep with you, and work with often. It is about developing ideas and keeping your brain always thinking about art.

#### **RULES:**

1. Do not make perfect drawings. Make mistakes, make false starts, keep trying.
2. FILL THE PAGE! Go off the edges. No more dinky drawings in the center. Think about some of these as complete artwork.
3. Date the page but don't sign it.
4. Do not draw from photographs that aren't yours. For real, ever. Draw from real life a lot, all the time.
5. No cutesy, precious, adorable work. This is college level.
6. EVERYONE should sketch.
7. The goal is MORE.
8. Have fun in your sketchbook! Use a variety of media. This your place to experiment and practice.

#### **Drawing Sketchbook Ideas:**

- Check these out <http://www.studentartguide.com/articles/photography-sketchbook-ideas>
- A Collection of objects: toys, books, art supplies, cans or bottles, kitchen utensils, etc
- Story Illustrations: Fix stories you don't like. Improve or reflect on those you do
- Junk food and the wrapper
- Part of a vehicle
- Something unappealing
- Interior of something (a room, a box, a shoe, a peanut butter jar, mechanical object,)
- 3 objects that aren't normally together
- Let someone else choose your subject or tell you what to draw.
- The contents of a trash can

- A house plant (real or artificial)
- A pile or grouping of leaves
- Tools that belong to a certain profession
- Draw an object melting
- Draw popcorn
- Draw a figure in an environment: In motion, Standing still, From observation
- Draw an imaginary place—add all kinds of details.
- Gesture drawings—people, things, animals
- Contour line drawings—figures or objects
- Write a short story or journal entry about your ideas
- Do several studies of eyes, noses, and mouths in a variety of positions and poses.
- An interesting object from 3 different views
- Any drawing using two-point perspective
- Fill a page with overlapping shapes. Show where the light would come from and ...
- Shade accordingly.
- Draw family members with things that are important to them.
- The interior of your room—view from the floor, the bed, the ceiling looking down, etc.
- Study the forms, shapes, lines, and textures and colors of trees.
- Draw dishes that are drying. Add shading.
- Create a fantasy building in a fantasy landscape.
- Make a series of positive and negative space designs.
- Show yourself in 50 years. Show your surroundings, possessions, family, etc.
- Draw your greatest fear.
- Illustrate the best story or joke you've ever heard someone tell.
- Write a poem.
- Copy down favorite quotes or song lyrics.
- Ideas for projects (art or otherwise)
- Draw pictures of your dreams.
- Go outside and draw where you live.
- Choose your own!

## Photography:

- **Take a minimum of 30-40 pictures.** Take more pictures than you think you need. It doesn't take much extra time, take more pictures. You do not have to print them, but they should be saved to a Google drive folder.
- Try some of these to get started or if you know your investigation take pictures to have as reference photos:
- Still life of 3 reflective objects
- Family member shoes
- An unusual interior
- Bicycles or tricycles
- Architecture
- Building that describes your neighborhood, town
- Restaurant
- Light fixtures
- Pottery pieces
- Statues
- cars
- Interesting lighting and shadows
- Plants
- Planes
- Cemetery art
- water reflections/distortions
- Dramatic lighting portraits
- Macro (up close pictures) of nature - texture/color
- Any of the drawing ideas or choose your own!