

VISUAL ARTS Course Syllabus, 2020-2021

Teacher Amy Wood

Days/Times Tues/Fri, 11:00-12:30

Email amywood@skyislands.org

Zoom link <https://zoom.us/j/94302826827?pwd=MkQyUzQ2bW5ReE5lZWVqNEhyUHBDZz09>

Meeting ID, 943 0282 6827

Passcode, VISUAL

Course Description

Visual Arts is a class where students will learn the fundamentals of art. They will learn about the elements of art and principles of design, which will provide them with a language for discussing why artworks are, or are not, successful. The class will study artists who work in a range of media, and be introduced to the field of art history. Visual Arts is a foundational course that asks students to construct and dissect their own ways of learning, create their own meaning through use of materials, and reflect on their processes verbally and in writing.

This year, the course has been modified to accommodate for the need to be making art from home. Students will be provided with a set of drawing materials and paper, as they will be creating many drawings. Students will also be taking photographs with their phones, and using their computers to make visual presentations.

Class assignments will include drawings, taking photographs, creating comics (sequential art), reading about and studying artists and art movements, making individual and group presentations (in PowerPoint).

Course Structure

The structure of the class will vary from day to day. In class, students might be working on or discussing one, or more, of the following topics:

Art elements and design principles; 2-D and 3-D art media; Observational Drawing; Art History; Art Analysis; Current art found in the media -- comics, videos, movies, etc.

Assignments

--There will be daily and weekly evidence of learning that includes: daily sketches/drawings, group assignments, individual research assignments, class presentations.

--Assignments will range in scope, scale and in use of materials. Unless otherwise specified, all homework is due the following class period.

Materials

Please come to class prepared with:

--a pencil and drawing paper, sharpener and eraser.

--a willingness to experiment, take risks, and be open to possibility.

--respect for your own process, for your classmates' ideas and artistic efforts, and for the studio community.

Grades

You will be graded in the following way:

40% Attendance, daily participation and contribution

We will have lots of discussions in class. You are expected to come to class prepared and actively participate in all activities and discussions. You will be evaluated in the following five areas: active listening, group collaboration, behavior, preparation, and verbal engagement. You can earn up to 10 points per class period.

35% Individual assignments and group assignments

This will include individual and group projects, which may be structured over multiple class periods.

25% Classwork

This will include drawings (reflections, observations, critiques) that are created during the class period. This work will be turned in to the Assignments page in Teams, where Amy will provide a grade and written feedback.

Please be in class on time. If you are late to class, there will be a 2-point deduction from your attendance/participation grade. For any and all group work, you will earn participation points on your participation, leadership, listening, feedback, and cooperation.

Grade Numerical Range*

A /-	90-100%
B +/-	80-89%
C +/-	70-79%
D or D+	65-69%
F	below 65%

*Percentages that end with a 7, 8, or 9 will be denoted with a (+); percentages that end with a 0, 1, 2, or 3, will be denoted with a (-).

*No A+ will be earned; no D-will be earned.

Assignment Grades

Assignments will be graded in one of the following ways: a numerical grade, a ✓ grade, or an incomplete grade.

--Numerical Grades: If an assignment is given a numerical grade, you will be given the number of points you received out of the total number of points. For example, you might receive an 8/10.

--A ✓ grade will adhere to the following scale:

- ✓ ++ Student followed all the directions, assignment is complete, shows substantial detail, and displays significant effort (9-10 points)
- ✓ + Student followed most directions, assignment is complete, shows some detail, and displays mid-level effort (8-9 points)
- ✓ Student followed some directions, assignment is mostly complete but shows mid/low level of effort (7-8 points)
- ✓ - Student didn't follow directions, assignment is mostly incomplete, shows little detail and/or effort. (6-7 points)
- 0/Inc No Credit. Assignment is not turned in, incomplete, or shows no effort.

Portfolios

--It is expected that you will keep your daily work and assignments together in a folder, binder or sketchbook. Your work should be noted with the date and any other significant information. You may be interested in putting together a portfolio of artwork for future educational or other endeavors, and having this work together, protected, and labeled will be helpful.

--11th- and 12th-graders may choose to include this class for one of their portfolios at the end of the year, and you will need to choose two pieces that you created using different media. Upon request, I will provide further information and guidance about choosing and documenting your work.

Late Work and Absences

An absence, for whatever reason, will affect your course grade. Excused absences will not affect homework grade *if* your assignments meet the requirement for late work. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed, by emailing me or by asking a friend. The late work policy is written in the 2020-2021 Sky Islands' Uniform Class Requirements. Please make sure that you read and understand it.

Additional Help

If you have questions about an assignment, you can always email me at amywood@skyislands.org. If you need one-on-one help, you can drop into office hours on Thursday, 3-4pm (see post in Teams or Skylink for the link), or we can schedule another time to meet.