

2023-24

ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDIO ART • MR. QUIRK SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

FIRST STEP = PLEASE JOIN THE GOOGLE CLASSROOM:

RAMAPO:2rkos15 • INDIAN HILLS: bwhjznh

We will use the Classroom to work on summer assignments and have a dialogue/give feedback.

Feel free at any time to email me with questions: squirk@rih.org

The AP Studio Art requirements are, 15 Sustained Investigation, and 5 Selected Works = 20. You can use two detail or close up shots of specific pieces that can count as a S.I.. Also, pieces made in the Sustained Investigation, can be used also in the Selected Works, but the Selected Works should be your overall 5 best pieces from Summer 2023 to May 2024.

Sustained Investigation means = **YOUR THEME**. You will be required to develop a theme and explore your Ideation, Materials Used, and Process throughout next year.

I want you to really think about those terms as your keys next year, you will need to think and write about them for EVERY PIECE YOU MAKE.

1) What is your **BIG IDEA**?

2) What are the **MATERIALS** being used?

3) What is the **PROCESS** that you experienced in creating this work of Art?

Essentially, this is what we call Inquiry Based Learning.

As artists it is important for us to be able to think critically and be able to **articulate** our work to others.

What is important to us as artists creating art?

How do we approach different concepts, materials; how do we respond to the world around us?

How do we use our own unique life experiences & connection to the world in the art we create?

Next year there will be a lot of:

Analysis and Interpretation: looking at artists both contemporary, peer, and throughout art history and working on relating them to your own work.

Peer to Peer Dialogue: Students will engage in critiques and share/respond to ideas with your classmates during works in concept stages , in progress, and final composition.

Reflective Writing: Students articulate ideas in writing throughout the creative process – think about it like keeping a Journal, or a diary of what you develop and create in making your art.

Writing is meant as a tool for thinking rather than an additional exercise.

4 Key ideas that we will constantly be working on:

- EXPERIMENTATION • EXPLORATION • DISCOVERY & REVISION

This is the process of creating art!

We need to understand our thoughts, ideas, our own working habits, what we are going to explore, what we learned, and what we do moving forward.

Art is a constant state of play, understanding, and experimenting.

What is a Question?

“A Beautiful question is an ambitious yet actionable question that can begin to shift the way we perceive or think about something – and that might serve as a catalyst to bring about change. “

ASSIGNMENT 1: HOW TO THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT ART & ART HISTORY

DUE JULY 15th

Review the works of American painter Mark Tansey, and answer the following questions.

<https://gagosian.com/artists/mark-tansey/>

<https://www.artnet.com/artists/mark-tansey/>

- 1) Go through the life and work of Mark Tansey. List 5 things that you learned about him.
- 2) Choose a work by Tansey to talk about, include an image in your Google Doc.
What moved you about this work?
- 3) The Gagosian Gallery spoke of Tansey's work: "*Each of Mark Tansey's paintings is a visual adventure that explores the nature of perception, meaning, and subjectivity*". What do you make of that quote? Take a look at his works and give me your take on what the quote means.
- 4) Compare Tansey's' work to other artists from art history that play with perception & illusion: Salvador Dali, Rene Magritte, and M.C. Escher = what are the similarities and what are the differences in their styles?
- 5) Google and Check out Tansey's 2021 work *Xing*. Why is this piece important? What is he doing here?
- 6) Does Tansey incorporate his own life and experiences into his paintings? If so, how?
- 7) Do you like his work? Why or why not? Be critical, talk about elements and principles of design in your answer.

ASSIGNMENT TWO: DUE JULY 15th

IF I COULD BE ANYTHING

When I was a kid I wanted to be an astronaut. Then in 1986 the Challenger exploded in front of me on live television. That quickly ended my idea of working for NASA. As a crusty old dude, I now revisit that early time in my life when I was trying to figure out my dreams. What were your dreams when you were little? Illustrate them! Don't think of limitations or about the burdens of reality. Draw the rainbow unicorns who jump over the sky castles on the moon. You can make this with words or incorporate a version younger/younger self portrait. Use photo reference to incorporate yourself into the composition if you wish. **The medium you use is up to you, but the composition should be no smaller than 14x18".**

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

ASSIGNMENT THREE: DUE JULY 15th

- 1) Do you currently have any idea what you might like to do for your AP Sustained Investigation? Your Investigation, or theme will be something you will explore in 15 pieces. Any thoughts? If so, please describe.
- 2) What was your favorite art assignment from this year? Why? What did you like about it?
- 3) Do you have a favorite visual artist? If so, who? If not, what "style" do you like best?
- 4) What is your favorite art medium to work with?
- 5) Besides making a good grade and a good AP score (which I hope is everyone's goal), do you have any other goals related to art next year? Examples could be improvement in a certain medium, going to art school, getting an art scholarship, etc.
- 6) Are you planning to go to college? If so, what do you think you will major in?
- 7) If you are thinking about art as a major, is there anything you would like the teacher to know so he can assist with your college planning?
- 8) What is your favorite form of music/band/musician?
- 9) List anything else you'd like the teacher to know to help you with the AP program?
- 10) What is your biggest FEAR about AP?

YOU NEED TO CREATE **6** PIECES by MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th:

Observational Drawings = 3

Conceptual Drawings = 3

Completing more of these pieces than required will only put you that much further ahead when school starts. TAKE THESE ASSIGNMENTS SERIOUSLY – THEY WILL HELP YOUR FINAL AP PORTFOLIO IF YOU DO.

AP Students should have about 8-12 strong pieces of art before entering this class, and it is CRUCIAL that you work over the summer to create some new pieces and develop ideas. During the school year you will be producing 4 high quality works of art each marking period. The more you create over the summer, the better it will be for you starting in September.

Helpful Hints for the class:

1. Use standard sizes. Stay within the 9" x 12" to 18" x 24" sizes (don't work bigger than that size), so that these pieces could be used for the quality section of your portfolio.
2. Use a sketchbook to plan your artwork. Make several thumbnails, jot down notes, glue in reference images, and do color studies when needed. The best sketchbook is the black hardbound 8.5" x 11" Basic Canson book with acid free paper, which can be purchased from Dick Blick on Route 4 or any Michaels store, as well as art vendors online.
3. DO NOT SIGN YOUR NAME on your work or place any identifying marks on the front as per AP Guidelines. Be sure to write your name on the back.
4. Visit the AP Central/Google Site for AP STUDIO ART visit the College Board website for the portfolio you are submitting often to see sample portfolios and to become familiar with requirements. This is a smart thing to do to see what other students have done previously! Also the Google Site for the course I have been building since 2019 = every student from that year on has a page and other media to help you understand the course! Definitely spend time with this over the summer!

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/studiodrawing><http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/studio2d><http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/studio3d>

5. Look at good art! Visit the local art centers, galleries, art museums, and art festivals. Especially the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York! Take your sketchbook with you, and render the work as well as your response to it. It's a good thing to jot down your thinking process in your sketchbook as well as draw in it.

6. Read about art: I also like looking at www.colossal.com and www.weandthecolor.com for ideas and new trends in art. Instagram is also a great way to search for contemporary artists by looking up keywords like sculpture, illustration, etc.

7. Search the Internet/Social Media for artists Look for similar artists dealing with the same subject as you. Study their work, life history, and influences. Not sure? Google Famous Artists, or take a snapshot of your work and email me to help you. I'm kind of a huge art history nerd. You can email me at squirk@rih.org, over the summer.

8 • Deadlines Are SACRED!

The AP program is a demanding one: you will submit 20 pieces of art the first week of May. When we start in September deadlines are set in stone, we are going to hit the ground running – deadlines are important to keeping you on target to complete the portfolio.

The pace is to create a finished work every 2.5 to 3 weeks. That is the grind.

I will do everything in my power to help you create a strong body of work, but you have to commit to that as well. This means you will be working on art in and outside of the classroom the entire year.

TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY. THE DEADLINES ARE NO JOKE!!!

The size of the artworks is not as important as the QUALITY of the artworks. However, with that being said, one can be small in size (9" x 12", 12" x 16"), and the second artwork could be medium to large in size (16" x 20", 18" x 24"). Please adhere to these sizes, and take it seriously! Please do not wait until the last few days before school starts to work on these, it will show in the final work, and that will reflect in your grade. These artworks should be executed with skill and demonstrate excellent craftsmanship.

Each artwork should contain the 3 "C"s": COMPOSITION, CONTRAST, & CONTENT.

Observation Drawing Prompts – pick & create three

1) UNUSUAL SELF-PORTRAIT: create a self-portrait, using your reflection in an unusual surface, something other than a normal mirror. This could be a metal appliance (toaster, blender), a computer monitor, something metallic in general like a spoon, a broken or warped mirror, a car's rear view mirror, or tinted windows.

2) BACKSIDER: draw from observing a person, an animal or an environment from a view behind them. Think about how you can use a unique perspective or angle to make an interesting composition. You can use a photo reference, but make sure that it is YOURS and you attach the image to your submission.

3) PLAY WITH YOUR FOOD: Arrange a meal and create a composition out of it. Mash potato leaning Tower of Pisa? Yes, make it happen. The Grand Canyon of desiccated steak, french fries and rice! Makes a scenic panorama for my stomach! The staging and use of light is really important for this assignment. You can use a photo reference, but make sure that it is YOURS and you attach the image to your submission. Drawing or Painting of your arrangement.

4) DIRTY/CLEAN: Create a composition by choosing two or more objects, one that is dirty and one that is clean. The objects are up to you, but consider using things that have different textures. For example, an old baseball mitt that is weathered and soiled, with a shiny metallic object like a wrench or a spoon. The staging and use of light is really important for this assignment. Use 5 tonal values = pencil/charcoal.

5) TAKE FOUR: Create a composition using an arrangement of 4 similar items. Arrange them into a still life and draw it from observation. Cereal bowls, socks, hats, ties, crumbled balls of paper, all could be examples. Your choice of color or b/w but a full 5 tonal value range should be present.

6) EXTERIOR/INTERIOR: Draw the exterior/interior of something from direct observation: kitchen cabinet, refrigerator, inside of a car – again, think about the angle and how to make it interesting. Don't be afraid to even combine the exterior/interior sketch on the same page. Think about drawing the fridge with the door open, or a lunch box with the contents exposed so you can see inside/outside.

7) NATURE/URBANITY: take a large piece of paper and divide it in half. Create a composition where you draw a part of a landscape or environment that showcases nature, have it spill over and merge into a more urban, manufactured and humankind altered landscape. Garbage paired with a garden? You will choose to make the context: is it man versus nature, nature and man in harmony, positive or negative? You create the story.

8) SCENE FROM YOUR LIFE: illustrate yourself in a common area, your kitchen, your basement, your bedroom, but pose yourself to make it look like a dramatic scene from a movie or play. I'm brushing my teeth: but with DRAMA.....the lighting, and arrangement compositionally is everything to this assignment.

9) MICRO/MACRO: create a unique composition by enlarging a small object exponentially larger. Examples: taking a thumb tack, apple seed, eraser, computer charger, and drawing it bigger than 8x12". Take a good angle to make it dramatic and think about lighting to create a unique composition. This should be done in pencil, charcoal or color pencil.

10) USE YOUR ILLUSION: Create a still life using hanging fabrics – this can be towels hanging on a chair, dress shirts overlapped over a couch, use good lighting for contrast/shadows. Set up your lighting and fabrics to give the illusion of the fabric becoming something else: a ghost, a figure, get creative on how you can use the fabric to imply a different context. This should be done in pencil/charcoal and with a strong light source.

CONCEPTUAL PIECES CHOOSE & CREATE THREE

1) RORSHACH/SPILL THE INK: first a little background: <https://www.rorschach.org/>. Take India Ink and spill it on the page. Fold the page as many times as you like, and feel free to spill and blot the ink multiple times as well. When the ink and page are dry, go back and try to create a composition that uses LINE, SHAPE, VALUE, BALANCE and FORM, connect the blots and strive to create a unique composition. This piece can be representational, or abstract = find the meaning in the blots.....

2) NURSERY RHYME: Create a composition illustrating a popular nursery rhyme.

3) UNNECESSARY STAINED GLASS: the original purpose of stained glass was to visually tell the story of the gospels in Christian churches, for those who could not read (in the Middle Ages, education was for the elites, not always for the common folk). Your mission is to create a visual narrative that incorporates the colors, style and linework of stained glass. Think about elevating a mundane event like doing your homework, but making a stained glass piece to memorialize or worship that event.

4) MERGE: This prompt asks you to literally create a composition by merging objects, the more ridiculous the better. Use your imagination! Mash up existing things to make a new idea! Take AT LEAST 4 objects and merge/blend them together. This can be a tight rendering in like a natural/anatomical style, or a crazy weird colorful adventure piece.

5) OVERLY EMOTIONAL: Illustrate your interpretation of a human emotion but make it super dramatic over the top.

6) **UPSIDE DOWN/TOPSY TURVY**: take a look at the work of M.C. Escher <https://mcescher.com/>. One of Escher's favorite things to do was to really mess with our idea of space and perception. For this assignment, I'd like you to take you or a loved one, and put them upside down into an environment. This piece will require good photo reference of figures and environment, plan it out, and think about space/perception to make a unique/impossible space.

7) **"THREE"**: Create a series of 3 new artworks around a theme of your choosing. Consider this a mini sustained investigation. Look at artists who worked in series, such as James Ensor, Andy Warhol, Sue Coe, Frank Stella, Piet Mondrian, Henri Matisse, and Pablo Picasso.

8) **"DISPLACEMENT:"** fill a container (vase, glass, plastic bottle, fish tank) and suspend objects or place objects behind it so they distort or are exaggerated. Render a composition focusing on displacement or distortion. A good example could be your feet in a bathtub full of water, or taking a photograph of a person's face under water.

9) **"REACTION"**: draw your reaction to a current event or issue in the world.

10) **"OVER MY HEAD"**: draw a self-portrait from direct observation, but create a composition above – what are the things you are thinking about/worrying about/dreaming of/listening to/obsessing over? You can incorporate text in this assignment. It's up to you how much of your face/body you want the viewer to see.

PHOTO PROMPTS – for any student interested in pursuing PHOTO (This falls under a 2-D Design portfolio), you can push yourself by trying to take the observation/breadth prompts and apply them photographically or try the ideas listed below. Take multiple photos/different angles for each conceptual approach.

1) **It was SO HOT THAT...** (create a photo narrative series based on a concept that conveys this idea).

2) **The Race!** Illustrate a scene of a race of your choice (you develop the context).

3) **Point of View in a Critical Moment:** (THERE IS NO CHEESE ON MY NACHOS! NO!).

4) **Say Goodbye:** develop a scene where the idea of saying goodbye comes through.

5) **Let's PLAY:** explore this concept and create your own visual narrative.

6) **Embrace:** explore this concept and create your own visual narrative.

7) **Climb The Walls:** explore this concept and create your own visual narrative.

8) Catch: (Speed Photo of an object being caught, your choice).

Take this at 4 different speeds, from blurry to stop motion.

9) Reflection: play with your self portrait reflected in an unusual surface (glass, water, metal).

10) Broken: create a series on an object that is distressed, damaged or broken.

3-D PROMPTS for any student interested in pursuing the 3-Dimensional Design portfolio, you can push yourself by trying to take the following prompts and apply them sculpturally. Take multiple photos/different angles for each conceptual approach.

1) Recycled Object Self-Portrait

2) Installation Art: Create A Site Specific Installation (TAKE GOOD PHOTOS).

3) Patterns of Nature: An environmental work of art that incorporates pattern and repetition.

(look up Andy Goldsworthy).

4) Eau Naturale: A sculpture out of only organic objects found in nature.

5) Assemblage: Create a sculpture of only 1 type of item (Examples: plastic water bottles, toothpicks, bottle caps).

6) Masked Identity: Hiding behind masks and other roles that we play. Think about how we use masks in everyday life. Develop a broader interpretation of how we hide behind our roles as in society "masking" who we are for conformity, acceptance through creating your own masks

7) Take Flight: create a sculpture that shows the act of flight, or show the desire to fly.

8) RESISTANCE: create a sculpture that showcases or embodies the concept of resistance: it can be tandem objects reacting to force, touch, etc.

9) Balance: create a sculpture that highlights the concept of balance, can be asymmetrical, symmetrical or metaphorical, like a person meditating, stretching.

10) OVERSTIMULATION: create a sculpture that shows the addiction to technology, or living on the computer via zoom, constant brain buzz (jogging with earphones, sleeping with iPhone, work with music, etc.) and its effect on our lives.