AP Art History Syllabus

2017-2018

Galena Park High School

Teacher: Antonio Hurtado

**Introduction**

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the rich traditions of western and non-European architecture, sculpture, painting and other art forms through factual knowledge and the skillful use of principles of aesthetics and comparative criticism. Students will learn how to respond to works of art with intelligence and sensitivity, examining the major forms of artistic expression of the past and of distant cultures as well as those of their own time and environment. Students may earn college credit by passing an exam written by the College Board. This course prepares the student to take the AP Art History exam.

**Big Ideas and Essential Questions**

BIG IDEA 1: Artists manipulate materials and ideas to create an aesthetic object, act, or event.

Essential Question: What is art and how is it made?

BIG IDEA 2: Art making is shaped by tradition and change.

Essential Question: Why and how does art change?

BIG IDEA 3: Interpretations of art are variable.

Essential Question: How do we describe our thinking about art?

**Skills and Assessment**

LEVEL 1: Questions will be asked requiring the following tasks from students: identifying, listing, naming, observing, and defining. Students are advised to make flashcards to prepare for Level 1 questions.

LEVEL 2: Questions will be asked requiring the following skills from students: analyzing, grouping, inferring, synthesizing, comparing/contrasting, and sequencing. Students will present in class and review class notes for reflection to prepare for Level 2 questions.

LEVEL 3: Questions will be asked and projects assigned requiring the following skills from students: evaluating, judging, predicting, hypothesizing, imagining, and speculating. Students will read in-depth for understanding, collaborate, and engage in classroom discussions to prepare for Level 3 questions.

**Textbooks and Resources**

* Fred Kleiner’s *Gardner’s Art Through the Ages,* 14th edition (available for check out if wished)
* Google Classroom (CODES to be announced)
* Powerpoints located on Google Drive (Accessed through Google Classroom)
* <https://smarthistory.org/>

**REQUIRED Supplies**

* 2 Notebooks or Sketchbooks, one for each semester (MUST be bound, not spiral)
* Highlighters (when completing work at home)
* Glue Sticks (when completing work at home)

**Optional Supplies**

* 4x6 Index Cards OR larger (for OPTIONAL grades; 3x5 is TOO SMALL!!)
* Colored pens or markers

**Daily Grades**

Quizzes (each quiz will be weighted as ONE DAILY GRADE)

* Quizzes will be given in various formats (i.e., multiple choice, identification, essay, reflective writing, etc…).
* Quizzes are collaborative.
* Quizzes will be administered randomly.
* Makeups are not needed for students who are absent since lowest daily grades are dropped.

Homework Essay (each essay will be weighted as ONE DAILY GRADE)

* Topics will be announced at least a few days ahead of due date.
* Essays will be peer reviewed in class and then turned in to the teacher for grading.

Homework Presentations (Presentations will be weighted as ONE DAILY GRADE)

* Students are required to prepare and present certain topics in order to “teach” other members of their group.
* Topics will be assigned on Google Classroom.
* Students will have approximately 3-5 minutes to present a work to their group members. The work discussed will be visually projected on the screen.

Classroom Activities

* These include an exploration of art-making processes in a one-day project.

**Major Grades**

Interactive Notebook (Interactive notebook will be weighted as ONE MAJOR GRADE)

* These must include a table of contents (leave approximately 4 pages at the beginning of the notebook).
* Each page must be numbered. Each page must include student name, date, and topic.
* Students must follow specified instructions provided by the teacher in handouts; these notebooks will be peer evaluated and/or teacher evaluated following an exam.
* Required content of Interactive Notebooks will be posted on Google Classroom.
* Interactive notebooks are due on the day of a major exam.

Exams (Each exam is weighted as THREE MAJOR GRADES)

* Major exams will have 20 multiple-choice questions (3 points each)
* The free response section will have 8 tasks (5 points each).
* Additional optional questions will be asked to raise scores. These may be based on material learned in other units taught earlier in the year.

**Optional Points**

Index Cards

* UP TO FIVE Index cards ONLY may be submitted (1 point for each card completed **correctly** on a major exam grade up to a grade of 100)
* Index cards must be 4x6 in size.
* You may only make index cards of required course content corresponding to a specific unit.
* All index cards must have a clear, non-distorted image on the front that you print off yourself. You may **NOT** use the printer in the classroom as this is an optional assignment, not a required assignment. It may be in black-and-white.)
* All information on index cards must be legibly hand-written, NOT typed.
* Index cards are to be created OUTSIDE OF CLASS, not in class. The purpose of creating index cards is for study outside of class.
* Mr. Darracott reserves the right to deny any or all notecards. REVIEW this document before turning in index cards.
* All index cards must include the following on the FRONT:
  + Full identification of the work as it appears in the Required Course Content
  + A clear, non-distorted image
  + At least one thematic heading (i.e. Images of Power, Man and the Natural World, Sacred Spaces and Ritual, Death and the Afterlife, etc…)
* All index cards must include the following on the BACK:
  + TWO complete sentences that discuss **form** through formal analysis (i.e. line quality, types of shapes or forms used, compositional devices, color choices, value contrast, scale, spatial relationships, lighting, texture, choice of media, etc…)
  + ONE complete sentence that discusses **function**
  + At least ONE complete sentence that describes the works **content** (narrative content, identifiable figures, symbolism, objects chosen to communicate meaning, location depicted, etc…)
  + TWO complete sentences that discuss the **context** of a work (historical, religious, political, social, or cultural background; context can also refer to setting or intended location)

Optional Projects (Weighted ONE to THREE MAJOR GRADES)

* Projects will vary from one six weeks to another; the weight of the projects will also vary