

Studio Art: 3D

Course Overview

The AP Studio Art course addresses three major concerns that are a constant in the teaching of art: (1) a sense of quality in a student's work; (2) the student's concentration on a particular visual interest or problem; and (3) the student's need for breadth of experience in formal, technical, and expressive aspects of their art. AP Studio Art is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year.

The goals of the AP Studio Art course are:

- To encourage creative as well as systematic investigation of formal and conceptual issues in the Quality, Concentration, and Breadth sections of the portfolio.
- To emphasize making art as an on-going process that involves the student in informed and critical decision making to develop concepts.
- To develop technical versatility and skills while using the visual elements and principles in compositional forms.
- To encourage students to become independent thinkers who will contribute inventively and critically to their culture through the making of art.

Structure of the AP Portfolio:

Students are required to investigate all three aspects of the portfolio which include Quality, Concentration, and Breadth. In building the portfolio, students explore a variety of concepts, techniques and approaches to demonstrate their abilities as well as their versatility with techniques, concepts and problem solving. For the Concentration section, students develop a body of work that investigates an idea of personal interest to them.

The 3-D Design Portfolio requires the student to produce 18 to 20 works.

These works may include traditional as well as experimental approaches to 3-D design. These issues can be explored through additive, subtractive, and/or fabrication processes, figurative or nonfigurative sculpture, architectural models, site-specific work, use of multiples, casting, assemblage and construction, jewelry, etc. Almost any material can be used in almost any combination: wood, paper, metals, rubber, Styrofoam, plaster, fabric, rope, acrylic, found objects, wax, clay, stone, earth, and concrete, among others.

The AP 3D Design portfolio has three sections:

Quality

This should include five works submitted as 10 slides, two views of each. These should be the student's *best* work, selected for excellence.

Concentration

This should include 12 slides which explore a single visual concern in depth. The student should spend considerable time in the investigation, growth, and discovery of this compelling visual concept.

Breadth

This should include eight works submitted as 16 slides, two views of each. This is a set of works showing understanding of the principles of three-dimensional design as evidenced by a range of high quality conceptual, expressive, and technical work.

Student Readings and Visual Research

AP Studio Art Poster

AP Scoring Guidelines

AP Studio Portfolio slide examples

AP Studio Portfolio online examples

Grades

AP Work is frequently so individual and experimental that grading is difficult. Expectations are based on evidence of thought, care, and effort demonstrated in the work. All of these elements are discussed with students, individually and in class critiques. Instructional conversations and critiques with the teacher enable students to learn to analyze and discuss their own artworks and those of their peers. Submission of a portfolio is mandatory to receive AP credit.

AP Studio Art Critique and Grading Rubric

	Poor	Moderate	Good	Strong	Excellent
Use of materials and techniques	1	2	3	4	5
Inventive/Imaginative	1	2	3	4	5
Evidence of thinking; Clear visual intent	1	2	3	4	5

Purposeful composition	1	2	3	4	5
Awareness of artistic influences	1	2	3	4	5
Sensitive/evocative	1	2	3	4	5

Homework and Summer Assignments

As in any college-level course, students are expected to work in and out of class for successful completion of the portfolio.

- Homework will vary depending on the needs of the individual student.
- Summer Assignments will enable the incoming AP student to begin the portfolio building process. These assignments will vary depending on the AP instructor.

Technology

Students will develop and present a digital portfolio:

- Using a computer graphic editing program.
- Using PowerPoint to create a portfolio of digitally documented artwork, including written reflections and a critique that can be used for a college application.

Copyright Issues

All work must be original. Copyright issues are discussed with the students early on and they are made aware of the legal issues involved with working from someone's published work. If students use someone else's work or a published image as a basis for their own pieces, there must be significant alteration to the piece for it to be considered original.

References

CollegeBoard AP Central retrieved January 10, 2007 from <http://click.collegeboard.com:80/118362947.54057.0.21553>.