
Art I First Semester Syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This introductory art course examines the visual arts in what is known as the *formalist* approach. Throughout the course, the major focus is on the elements of art – line, shape, form, color, value, texture, and space. How these elements are put together in a composition -- *the principles of design* – is introduced in first semester and examined more thoroughly in the second semester. Students will examine the ways that well known artists have utilized these basic building blocks of art; they will also explore their use in their own artworks.

Activities are provided that allow the expressive use of the elements and principles in personal artwork while students are developing their technical skills. Ample opportunities for discussion and reflection are incorporated into assignments with many suggestions for adapting or extending the learning experience.

Ideas, styles, and periods -- the historical and cultural context of art --is an essential part of learning about the impact that the visual arts have had throughout the ages. The course will examine the role and development of the visual arts in past and present cultures throughout the world. Students will have opportunities to also apply what they have learned across subject areas, making connections with major themes, concepts, and ideas to be found in the performing arts as well as in other academic subjects.

COMPENTENCY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

As a basis for lesson and unit goals and objectives, the course utilizes the *National Standards for Arts Education*, also utilizing the *California Visual Arts Content Standards* as well as the art standards for Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas

EVALUATION

Student work will be evaluated in a variety of ways: criteria check lists, rubrics, quizzes, formal critique and individual portfolio review.

Art I First Semester Syllabus

Unit 1: Introduction To Art 1

8 Sessions

Getting Organized
Facial Proportions
Pass-It-On Portraits
Self Portrait Collage
Journal And Portfolio

Unit 2: Working With Line

16 Sessions

Line And City Skylines
Gesture Drawings
Blind Contour Drawing
Continuous Lines
Wire Portraits
Line Portrait Prints

Unit 3: Working With Texture

13 Sessions

Rubbings
Portraits In Texture
Scales And Skin
Transparent And Shiny
Slick And Shiny
Quiz (Line And Texture)

Unit 4: Working With Shape

15 Sessions

Shape In City Buildings
City Block Scene
Simple Shapes/Complex Images
Within And Around – Positive And Negative
Cutouts And Cutaways

Unit 5: Working With Value

17 Sessions

Value And Shading
Shading And Shadows
Seeing And Drawing – The Eye
Trompe L’oeil – Fool The Eye
Drawing Your Backpack
Painting Values

Art I First Semester Syllabus

Unit 6: Working With What We Have Learned

11 sessions

Presentation Portfolio

Portfolio Reviews

Poster/Bookmaking

Student Artwork – The Interpretive Exhibition

Total Sessions: 80

The Principles of Design are addressed in all units and are covered more completely in Art 1 Second Semester in Unit 10.