

AP Studio Art Summer Assignment

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Overview: This is the course description not the assignment!

The AP portfolio consists of 3 sections for a total of 29 pieces so it is imperative that you begin focusing on the drawings for this project NOW! The sections are as follows:

- **Concentration**- 12 works based on a theme of your choosing. It must show growth over time, both in terms of your abilities and your idea. This is NOT an assignment given by me. YOU must devise the theme and I will assist you.
- **Breadth**- 12 works that explore a variety of subjects and media. This section focuses on highlighting the various media/techniques and subjects that you have experience with.
- **Quality**- 5 actual works that are sent to the AP board for review. This provides the reviewers an opportunity to see your actual work, warts and all. In general, a maximum of two works may come from the Breadth and Concentration sections.

Summer assignment:

(25 points)

1. Portfolio assessment and criticism.

ALL RESPONSES MUST BE TYPED in 12 pt. font. Copy and paste the questions from this document into your assignment, then respond. When finished print and bring with you the first day of class.

Go to the AP website and view the following pages: Concentration and Breadth student samples, student commentaries in concentration and the scoring rationales for each section.

Here's the web address and how to navigate from the home page:

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/index.html>

from this page, scroll over the green button on the left of the page "AP courses and exams" and click on "Course Home Pages". Click on Studio Art: Drawing at the bottom of the page. Then go to "AP Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio with Student Samples and Scoring Guidelines". Then, click on the links for Quality with student examples, Concentration with Student examples and Breadth with student examples and become familiar with these examples, the scores that each received and reasons for the scores. For the writing assignment, choose a year to review for each portfolio (quality, breadth and concentration) and answer the following questions. Write down the year you chose, student name and score for each portfolio for that section (ex. 2008 Concentration- Mary Smith, score-6, Joe Jones, score-5, Sally Martin, score 4). These questions should be used for each portfolio: quality, breadth and concentration.

1. In the portfolio that scored a 6 what did you feel was most successful and why?
2. In general, what was the biggest difference between the portfolio that received a 6 and the one that received a 5?
3. Analyze the composition of one of the images in the portfolio that scored a 6. How does the student create a focal point? How is the composition organized to lead the viewer's eye from one place in the image to another?
4. What did the judges respond to in terms of technique, media, composition, color, subject and content in the 6 portfolio?
5. What is 1 main difference from portfolio that scored a "6" from the one that scored a "5" and the one that scored a "4"?
6. What is one major weakness in the 4 portfolio (in your opinion and based on the explanation from the judges)? What could that student have done to improve the work?
7. Looking at the commentary for the 6 portfolio in the Concentration section. How does the student clearly describe his/her work so that you can see their ideas in the work?
8. What is one thing from the 6 portfolio that will be important to keep in mind for your portfolio? What is one thing from the 4 portfolio that you will work to avoid?

Why is this important? The more you know about how previous student have achieved and what the judges have responded to, the better equipped you will be as you begin your work.

2. Brainstorming themes for your concentration

40 points for idea descriptions (20 pts. each) + 50 points for images (25 pts. Each drawing)

After reading the commentary section for each student's concentration and viewing portfolio examples, begin coming up with possible ideas for your concentration. Write a short description for 2 separate ideas for possible themes. Complete 2 images for each theme. These will be discussed during the first week of school. We will work with your ideas and craft a final theme for your concentration. **CONCENTRATION IMAGES MUST BE ORIGINAL. NO COPYING FROM PHOTOGRAPHS OR OTHER ARTWORKS WILL BE PERMITTED.**

Ideas must express/relate to a theme, *not* a simple subject (i.e. theme- exploring different ways of doing self-portraits to express personality, mood, emotional state or various approaches to creating a realistic portrait vs. abstract portrait. Simple subject- drawing manga characters or painting flowers- these will NOT be acceptable for the portfolio!).

Images must:

- be at least 9x12 inches or larger. Making bigger drawings can be more interesting and more challenging.
- be completed in at least 2 different media, for example: 1 drawing with pencil, 1 color pencil. Use any drawing/painting materials you wish. • use the entire page- interesting positive and negative shapes.
- have a clear focal point/focal points
- exhibit a strong sense of light and shadow (contrast)
- exhibit a strong sense of spatial illusion through overlapping and size variation (perspective)
- exhibit strong use of line variation or line weight to convey location in space (dark, thick lines make something look closer, light thin lines make something look farther away), or importance within the image.
- explore unusual and compelling perspectives (views) of the subject. **Timeline for**

Summer Assignments: Adhere to the timeline!

In order for these assignments to be relevant and meaningful for you, it is critical that you use your time well. DO NOT attempt to do these assignments the week before school starts. It will be stressful and will not provide you with the critical skills practice and ideation growth that these activities are intended to offer (if done well you may be able to use these drawing in your portfolio). I use the drawing assignments as a way to assess where your strengths and areas for growth are so if you rush through these I will not have an accurate view of your abilities.

- explore unusual and compelling perspectives (views) of the subject. **Timeline for Summer**

Assignments

In order for these assignments to be relevant and meaningful for you and me, it's critical that you use your time well. DO NOT attempt to do these assignments the week before school starts. It will be stressful and will not provide you with the jumpstart that these activities are intended to offer (if done well you may be able to use these drawing in your portfolio). I use the drawing assignments as a way to assess where your strengths and areas for growth are so if you rush through these I will not have an accurate view of your abilities.

Timeline

By JULY 13TH

- **Complete the commentary (description) for the first of your concentration ideas AND have two drawings completed.**
- **View all portfolios, concentration, breadth and quality. Be sure to view portfolios that scored 6, 5 and 4 in each category so you can compare as described above.**
- **Complete write up for the concentration portfolios (questions 1-8).**
- **Begin the write up for the breadth portfolios (questions 1-4 at least).**
- **BEGIN WORKING ON SECOND CONCENTRATION IDEA DESCRIPTION AND 2 DRAWINGS!!!!**

Share with me through google slides!

I realize that some of these techniques and concepts may be new for you but part of this assignment is for me to see where you are starting from, work at the best of your current ability, do not rush through these...it will show!

- Look up any words that are foreign to you as they relate to art or, review your notes from previous classes...we have discussed most, if not all of them! Check the Glossary on the California Dept of education website. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/vaglossary.asp>
- You may want to look on YouTube for some tutorials related to these skills such as perspective, line weight, light and shadow, it is an almost endless resource.

We will discuss your concentration ideas and images related to them during the first week of school so make sure that all of these are completed so that you will have a strong foundation for the year.