

Kensington Woods HIGH SCHOOL



Scholarship · Character · Purpose

General Course Information

Course Title	Advanced Art
Description	This course was designed to further develop a student's technical, aesthetic and conceptual skills in their chosen medium. Students will make art that expresses their ideas and opinions about their subject through visual means. Emphasis will also be placed on exploring contemporary and historical art and artists.
Room Number	107
Faculty Name	Mrs. Pratt
Contact Information	517-545-0828 jpratt@kwoods.org
Course Website	Google Classroom and www.pratt.kwoods.org

Introduction

Art communicates ideas through a medium.

This course is designed as an intermediate course in art making, preparing students for AP Studio Art should they desire to take it. Whether planning to pursue art beyond high school, or rather just for enjoyment, art provides us a new way of seeing and thinking about our surroundings. Making art provides us with a way to express our ideas and feelings in unique ways. Examining art and its history provides us a way to understand what happened in the world in the past and present.

In this course, you will work towards Michigan's Merit Curriculum standards in the visual arts by developing ways to think critically about art and become more creative as well as learn about techniques, principles and concepts in art. This course also meets Kensington Woods High School and the Michigan Merit Curriculum's art credit graduation requirement.

Course Expectations

You are expected to work hard and try your best. You are also expected to be respectful and responsible students inside and outside of the art classroom (studio). This includes respectful and responsible behavior towards your class work, classmates, me and classroom.

Students are expected to keep up with projects and assignments that will be worked on daily in class as well as with work that may be needed to be done outside of class. Class work will be consisted of daily activities and longer-term projects where students will learn about and practice concepts and techniques required of them. Class time will also consist of class discussions about artwork (students' and working artists) as well as discussions about art and contemporary issues. Students are expected to be active participants in all discussions and will be held responsible accordingly. At times, work may need to be completed or worked on outside of class, and students will be expected to complete the work as necessary. Students will also be assigned sketchbook assignments that will be due at regular intervals of the semester that should be completed at home or in class when finished with other projects.

To be successful with this class, you must work continually. It is very easy to leave larger projects until the last minute, but art making is a process. It takes time to evolve ideas and techniques and by working continually on your projects and sketchbooks, you will find yourself a much more successful artist.

Because you are now in an advanced class, you will have more independence than you had in an introductory class. This growing independence is designed to help you grow as an artist and a student. However, if you don't keep on top of your assignments, the extra independence can be a curse.

Studio Environment

I expect you to challenge yourself with your ideas and not be afraid to take risks. It's ok if an artwork doesn't work the first time. Things can be revised, modified and improved through reflection and effort and the artwork can become successful. I feel the most important part of making an artwork is not the end result but the process of making the work. The studio should be a safe place for all artists, so you are expected to be respectful and constructive with your comments about others' work. Everybody enters this classroom with different experiences and ability levels and it is the goal of this class to improve you to the best of your ability. Everybody can learn how to do the things we will do in this classroom and be successful as long as they put forth their ideas, a positive attitude and effort. Although art is a visual medium, your ideas are equally important to your technique.

Technology in the Classroom

In this class we will use various types of technology to help us research, share ideas and reflect. This includes, but is not limited to: internet use, email, Google programs, Adobe Creative Suite Programs (Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, etc.) and video. When technology based assignments are given, students will be expected to complete them on time and make plans accordingly if internet access is not available at home. Students will be provided with access to any technology needed to complete the requirements of this course through Kensington Woods High School.

Course Content

Throughout the course we will cover a variety of topics focused on having you working as, thinking like and becoming an artist through the exploration of a theme or question.

Because of the unique set up of the class, with multiple classes meeting as one, the entire class will often be working on similar themes and working through the artistic process as a group, through your individual mediums. This is an exciting opportunity for you to receive unique input and view your work and process with fresh eyes, as well as providing the same to others. It also provides us great opportunities for collaboration and personal and artistic growth. You will also be assigned individual projects to be worked on at your own pace.

This format, with the focus on themes, allow us to work as a cohesive group, while allowing each individual medium to focus on the skills and knowledge needed to be developed for their particular course.

Because I run a classroom that contains both rigor and relevance and one that is continually engaged in pushing students towards mastery, the themes that we will cover will depend on student interest, teacher interest, current events, contemporary and historical art inspirations and other influences. When we begin each project, we will discuss the theme in relation to the artistic process as well as contemporary and historical artists. Each theme will also include new technical skills that we will review and explore for your particular medium (and somewhat you may be not as experienced with).

Essential Standards of Learning

In this course, learning objectives (targets) have been aligned to the Michigan Merit Curriculum, Common Core Curriculum, College Readiness Skills and expectations of the art department at Kensington Woods High School. These learning targets are designed to also prepare students for success in AP Studio Art or a college level art course.

Listed below are 10 essential learning standards for Art 2. To find success in this course, students must obtain mastery of these standards. This is not a complete list of learning objectives in this course, but instead, a list of the most essential standards.

Students will be able to:

1. Describe and analyze personal definition of art, giving examples and justifications for definition
2. Develop, practice and apply tools, skills and processes that they can use to work through the creative process independently at an intermediate level of skill
3. Reflect, articulate, edit and evaluate the development of artwork throughout the creative process. Apply to future works.
4. Apply given media, materials and tools to the creative problem solving process with skill, confidence and sensitivity that intentions are carried out in their artworks at an intermediate level, applying to more complex problems (Given media, materials and tools dependent on student's media choices)

5. Apply introduced (in this class and prior to this class) techniques and skills to the creative problem solving process with skill, confidence and sensitivity that intentions are carried out in their artworks at an intermediate level, applying to more complex problems (Given techniques and skills dependent on student's media choices)
6. Create work that uses composition, the Elements and Principles of Art, media, materials and techniques to create conceptual and aesthetic meaning at an intermediate level, applying to more complex problems
7. Analyze and evaluate the meaning of a work of art through a variety of methods (writing, speaking, visual) based on the context, aesthetics and technical aspects of work through an increasing complexity of themes and apply analysis and evaluation to own work.
8. Explore social and global issues through the application of the creative process through an increase of complexity in issues addressed at an intermediate level.
9. Analyze the impact of visual culture on society.
10. Curating a portfolio that demonstrates best work, with analysis and evaluation
11. Evaluating work and improving/revising projects to present best quality work
12. Work collaboratively to create artwork

Prerequisite knowledge/skills for success in this course

Students should have a minimum of one year experiences in their medium to help them find success in this course. Students are expected to work thoughtfully and purposefully, developing their technical, conceptual and aesthetic skills throughout the year.

Students will also work on developing the following skills that will help them find success in this course.

Mastery Level	<p>Work habits: Students will be able to work effectively independently and in groups. Students will be able to work thoughtfully and with purpose.</p> <p>Academic integrity: Students will act honestly and ethically in their work.</p> <p>Study skills: Students will adhere to assignment deadlines.</p> <p>Reflection: Students will be able to reflect about and analyze their own and others work and process in and thoughtful and purposeful manner.</p> <p>Technology (both manual and computer based): Students will develop a deep understanding of new technologies used in class, and work towards expert levels of technologies introduced in previous courses.</p> <p>Art History and Context: Student will develop skills in analyzing and synthesizing artworks and their context.</p>
Familiarity Level	<p>Research: Students will develop a higher level of research skills (computer and book based) to research artists and artwork, working towards synthesis.</p> <p>Technology (both manual and computer based): Students will develop a familiarity of new technologies used in class, and work towards expert levels of technologies introduced in previous courses.</p> <p>Art History and Context: Student will develop skills in analyzing art and placing art in context</p>

Course Materials

Much of the materials needed for the class will be provided by Kensington Woods. You will be taught proper usage of studio materials, computers and programs and are expected to treat them respectfully. However, you will be responsible for obtaining the following supplies:

Sketchbook

Minimum size: 5.5 in x 8.5 in.

Minimum pages: 75, unlined (most students used 100+ pages last year)

You will be expected to complete many assignments and explorations in your sketchbook; you are expected to bring your sketchbook to class every day. Choose a size that is comfortable for you to carry with you (8.5 in x 11 in. or 9 in. x 12 in. are good examples). Also, please choose a thicker quality paper (60 lb+). You may need to purchase a second book later in the year if you use up all your pages.

Sketchbooks are available at art supply stores, or craft and office supply stores like Staples, Michael's or Joann Fabrics. Some drug stores and dollar stores even carry them.

Portfolio

Minimum size: 19 in. x 25 in.

The portfolio will be kept in class and allow you to keep track of your own work (parts and whole) and keep it clean and presentable. Some of you may be planning on pursuing art beyond high school, so the portfolio becomes imperative to keep work neat and presentable for portfolio reviews. We will also be using past work as reference and reflection material throughout the year.

Portfolios are available at art supply stores or craft stores like Michael's or Joann Fabrics.

Folder

8.5 in x 11 in., two pocket

You are expected to keep class handouts and papers organized in a two-pocket folder. Folders are to be brought to class every day.

Paint Brushes and Palette (optional)

It is recommended for students to obtain a set of brushes and a palette for their own personal use. When shopping for brushes, get a variety of sizes and shapes, preferably in a Synthetic/Taklon style hair or something good for acrylic and watercolor. Consider also getting a brush bag to keep your brushes in; it helps them last longer! The higher quality you can go for, the better they will act and longer they will last if taken care of properly.

Michael's is a great local place for brushes, or if you are in the area, Utrecht in Detroit is great too.

Digital Camera (optional)

Digital cameras used in class should have manual settings (film speed, F-stop and shutter speed) as well as a high quality resolution. You will also need the USB cord that fits your camera or a USB card reader.

SDHC Memory Card (4GB+) (optional – RECOMMENDED for photography students)

You may prefer to use your own memory card that you can use with the school's cameras.

Other Personal Supplies (optional)

You may wish, as you are developing as an artist, to invest in your own set of supplies, from a variety of pencils, colored pencils, pastels, markers, erasers, brushes, paints, etc. depending on what you would use.

Flash Drive (optional)

Recommended for personal storage, at least 2GB. You will also have access to personal file storage in your Google Drive, which is associated with your school issued email. Can be used for other classes as well.

Important Notes about Supplies:

- You can often get great coupons from Michaels or Joann's by signing up for their email newsletter.
- All supplies need to have your name and your class written clearly on them. If you have any problems obtaining the required items, please feel free to contact me.

Grading

Grades will be based on how well you meet specified course objectives (targets) through class projects and assignments. Before each unit, you will be given the things I expect you to be able to accomplish by the end of the unit. You will often be assessed by both you and me throughout the unit. If you struggle with a target, you will have opportunities to improve grades as desired by meeting with me and discussing what knowledge and skills you need to work on to meet the goals of the assignment and class. This topic will be discussed at further length in coming weeks. If you have any questions about grading, please don't hesitate to contact me.

KWHS follows the following grading scale:

A = 95-100 (4.0)
A- = 90-94 (3.7)
B+ = 87-89 (3.3)
B = 83-86 (3.0)
B- = 80-82 (2.7)
C+ = 77-79 (2.3)
C = 73-76 (2.0)
C- = 70-72 (1.6)
F = below 70 (0.0)

Your grade will consist of assessment of the following:

20%: Formative Assessments (formative means in process or learning is forming)
Includes daily work, sketches, project planning, critiques, Inspiration boards, etc.

60% Summative Assessments (summative means assessments that sum up your learning)
Includes major projects and reflections and process assignments

20% Summative Final Project/reflection
End of semester project/reflection

You and your parents can check your progress at any time using MISTAR, our online grading and record keeping program. For more information about MISTAR, visit the school's website, www.kwoods.org.

Turning in Work

All assignments are expected to be completed with quality and turned in by the due date. A student is not eligible to revise a project unless they turn something in on the due date.

However, if you are struggling with a project, or need more time, please talk to me in advance of the due date. If you are working and putting in your best effort, the due date can be extended for you. However, know that the class will move on and you will be expected to come in and work on the project outside of class (before school, after school, lunch). I am often available during all of those times with advance notice.

Please keep in mind that you must talk to me BEFORE the due date to be granted an extension.

Revision

I expect you to put in your best effort on your work and master the content. If you do not master the content of a unit/project by receiving at least a 70% on the work, I often will request you revise the project until you get at least a 70% before you receive credit for the assignment. We will work on that on a one-on-one basis if necessary.

If you receive a 70% or above but are still not happy with your grade, you are more than welcome to revise your projects at any point during the semester and submit them for a revised grade.

If you would like to revise a project, please speak with me to review what you should work on to revise the project. A reminder that the Request to Revise form is required and revisions must be completed within 2 weeks of your project being returned (see Request to Revise form for full Revision expectations).

Classroom Expectations

Absences

If you are absent, you are responsible for obtaining and making up missed work.

Material Use

Students are expected to use materials responsibly and with respect. That means putting things away where they belong, cleaning up after themselves and not wasting materials. Students not treating materials with respect will lose the privilege to use them.

Cell Phones/Mp3 players

Cell phones and mp3 players/music players are not allowed out during class without teacher permission. At times you may use them for music or research with teacher permission, but never during whole class or group activities. Both headphones should be out of the ear during whole class or group activities.

Being out of Class

Students are expected to be responsible about being out of class. Students may not leave class the first 15 minutes while the class is getting started. Students are asked to alert the teacher when they need to use the restroom but are asked not to leave class when whole class or group activities are in progress. Only one student is allowed to be out of the class at a time to use the restroom. If a student is out of class more than 15 minutes (unless they are with another teacher), it will result in an absence.

Coming Prepared to Class

All students are expected to come prepared to class, which means you come with your sketchbook, a writing utensil, your folder and any work you have to turn in or work on during class.

Extra work time

If you need more time to work on a class project, you are expected to take the initiative and schedule time in advance with me to work on your assignment before school, after school, during lunch or during advisory, leaving you enough time to complete the assignment on time. If you need time beyond that, please talk to me in advance to make appropriate arrangements.

Computer Labs

There is absolutely no food or drink in the computer labs or near school devices. While in class and in the labs, you are expected to follow all rules of the computer labs and your Computer Use Agreement.

File Storage

You will be able to store your project files on either the public R:/ drive, your SkyDrive through your email. We will review the options in class. You also have the option of using a USB drive, but forgetting your drive is not an excuse for not having your work.

Respect

My primary goal in classroom management is that a respectful classroom environment is created. This means respect for all members of the classroom community, respect for the materials and respect for the room through your actions, words and thoughts. This includes appropriate language and behavior.

Students who are not able to participate in the class respectfully will be dealt with appropriately. This includes following school rules regarding cell phones, students out of class and other policies.

It is my goal that this course provides you with the knowledge and tools to create a lifelong appreciation of art and design. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I am always available to answer questions or provide help to both students and parents. I look forward to a great year!

Thank you,

Jessie MacGonigal Pratt