

# Kensington Woods HIGH SCHOOL



*Scholarship · Character · Purpose*

## General Course Information

<b>Course Title</b>	AP Studio Art
<b>Description</b>	This course was designed as an advanced course in art making, designed to prepare students for an AP Portfolio submission and is designed on the level of a first year college art course. Students will expand on their technical, conceptual and aesthetic skills as well as their knowledge in contemporary and historical art history and reflection/critique (analysis) skills.
<b>Room Number</b>	107
<b>Faculty Name</b>	Mrs. Pratt
<b>Contact Information</b>	517-545-0828 jpratt@kwoods.org
<b>Course Website</b>	Google Classroom and <a href="http://www.pratt.kwoods.org">www.pratt.kwoods.org</a>

## Introduction

### **Art communicates ideas through a medium.**

Welcome to AP Studio Art. 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 class, we will explore all of these aspects of art in ways that allow us to become more successful artists.

This Advanced Placement course will hold students up to standards and expectations equivalent to a first-year college art course. The course will focus on the ongoing process of making art in a way that develops the student's technical, conceptual and aesthetic skills as well as problem solving and critical thinking skills. Students will be expected to continually work towards mastery in their artwork through their investigation into technical, conceptual and aesthetic development, in both their primary medium and other mediums. Students will have many opportunities for critique, reflection and to revise work to reach the goal of mastery.

In this course, you will work towards Michigan's Merit Curriculum standards, National Core Art standards and AP 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 through two-dimensional methods. This course also meets the Michigan Merit Curriculum's art credit graduation requirement.

The main focus of the course is to continually investigate your craft and ideas, to creatively and analytically delve into the challenges that art and design creates for us as artists (conceptual, aesthetic and technical issues), and to explore the many approaches to visual expression while achieving mastery in a chosen concentration. All students will develop a portfolio for submission for the AP Studio Art Portfolio Review. If you score a 3 or above (on a scale of 1-5) you may be able to earn college credit. Please see the AP college board website for course equivalencies at different schools.

Please see the attached Portfolio Requirements Document from AP for details about AP Portfolio Expectations

## 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 students coming from different backgrounds and working potentially in different medium, 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).

## 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.

### **Work hard**

Expect to have to work outside of class on work for this class, this includes over the summer. Most studio classes in college expect you to work outside of class for a minimum of the same amount of time you were in class. We will have set times for open studio during the summer and the school year for you to work in the Art Studio with my assistance outside of the school day. You are also more than welcome to check out materials and use them at home.

### **Be here and on time**

You are expected to be in regular attendance and on time for this class. If you are in danger losing credit in this class due to attendance and/or tardies (even if you make up the absences), we will meet to discuss whether you are really ready for the AP experience.

## **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.

## **Sketchbooks/Visual Journal**

You will be asked to maintain a sketchbook/visual journal for this class. You should be working in it throughout the summer and the school year. This sketchbook will be the place that you investigate concepts, generate ideas and develop your skills. You may work in this sketchbook however you would like and it can take any form that you would like. Drawing, painting, collage, writing and collecting are all acceptable methods to be working in your sketchbook. However, I request that you work in more than one method. Do not confine yourself to one method or medium in your sketchbook. Your sketchbook is a place for exploration and risk taking.

The work you complete in your sketchbook will count as a significant portion of your grade. You are expected to take it seriously as an integral portion of your development as an artist. We will discuss sketchbooks more at a later date.

## **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, Microsoft Office 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.

## **Critiquing**

As usual, critiquing will be a significant portion of my class. The purpose of a critique is to provide valuable feedback to the artist as to how they can further develop their work. It is also an opportunity to develop our critical thinking and analytical skills, which are continually necessary as artists. Critiques also help develop the appropriate communication skills and vocabulary for art criticism. By looking at artwork (both professional and student made), it allows us to further develop our artistic skills by being able to recognize quality work (conceptually, technically and aesthetically).

We will have regular, scheduled whole class critiques (at least two a marking period/6 per semester). These critiques will be looking at in process and complete works. We will also have impromptu small group and one on one critiques throughout the marking period as needed. I will expect to meet with you one on one at least once a week to provide feedback to you and to keep track of where you are in your portfolio development.

In critiques you will be expected to present your work by speaking about your process and explain and defend your technical, conceptual and aesthetic choices. It is also an opportunity for you get constructive feedback about your work. Feel free to ask questions of your classmates. Where could you use their input? You will also be expected to respond to your classmates work with respectful and constructive comments. Help your fellow classmates by giving them specific feedback that helps them in continuing to develop their work and process (not just "I like it"). What would you change if it were your work? What is working about the work? What is not? Through these critiques, we are able to work as a class to help each other achieve mastery in our work.

You will also be asked to write about your work as part of the critique process. You will be asked to document your process and justify your technical, conceptual and aesthetic choices.

### **Copyright/Appropriation**

As a working artist, you are expected to develop your own ideas. We are often inspired by other artists, but you must demonstrate your own visual choices in your work. If you appropriate another artist's work, you must show "substantial and significant development" past the original work. The work should be obvious that it came from you, not another. We will discuss this concept further as the year develops.

### **Summer Assignments**

There were assignments assigned for summer work to help build your portfolio. Please refer to the Summer Assignment handout for information on summer assignments.

## **Essential Standards of Learning**

In this course, learning objectives (targets) have been aligned to the Michigan Merit Curriculum, Common Core Curriculum, SAT 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 a college level art course

Listed below are 10 essential learning standards for AP Studio Art. 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 advanced 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 significant skill, confidence and sensitivity that intentions are carried out in their artworks at an advanced 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 significant skill, confidence and sensitivity that intentions are carried out in their artworks at an advanced 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 advanced 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 advanced 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

## 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.

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

Encouraged for students who will work primarily in Photography. 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)**

Encouraged for students who will work primarily in Photography. 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 4GB. 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 or downloading their app.
- 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**

Assessing your work for this course can be a complicated thing, due to the subjective nature of art. However, we will be using rubrics based off of the AP scoring guides to regularly assess your work. The rubrics will include assessment of your process, technical skill, aesthetic choices, conceptual choices and your growth as an artist. You will also be assessed on the evidence of thought, care and effort demonstrated in your work.

Your work will be assessed by me using these rubrics but will also regularly be assessed by you and your classmates. You should continually keep these rubrics in mind when you are creating your work; they indicate different levels of quality and you should always be striving towards the highest level.

## **KWHS follows the following grading scale\*:**

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

*\*In recognition of the heavier burden of advanced work, grade point averages shall be weighed by awarding extra units Advanced Placement courses when a student takes the AP exam and receives a passing score (3+).*



**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](http://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.

## **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. While using technology at school, 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 Art drive or your Google Drive. 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*