

Kensington Woods HIGH SCHOOL



Scholarship · Character · Purpose

General Course Information

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| Course Title | Digital Art 1 |
| Description | <p>Designed as an introduction to digital arts, students will look at digital technologies through the lens of art as an art form, examining media such as photography, graphic design, digital illustration and film. Students will learn to consider their aesthetic choices as well as how to communicate ideas through their work. We will be focused on the theme of community this year, considering the question: What is the role and responsibility of art to build and change communities?</p> <p>Students will learn how to use digital cameras and digital editing software, including Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. Students will also learn about the history and contemporary use of photography, design and film as an art form.</p> |
| Room Number | 133 |
| Faculty Name | Mrs. Pratt |
| Contact Information | 517-545-0828 jpratt@kwoods.org Office: Room 131 |
| Course Website | www.pratt.kwoods.org |

Introduction

Art communicates ideas through a medium.

This course is designed as an introduction to digital the digital arts. As participants in a rapidly digitizing world, it is important for us to be able to understand and contextualize the images, especially digital ones, which we see. As we experience photographs, advertisements, films, what is it that we take away from them? Is it art or just meant to provide information? What message is the artist trying to send us, and as we create, what message are we trying to send?

In this course, students will work towards Michigan's Merit Curriculum and the National Core Arts Standards in the visual arts by developing ways to think critically about digital art and become more creative as well as learn about techniques, principles and concepts related to the digital arts. This course also meets 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 studio environment (Classroom, Big Room, Computer Lab). 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 process 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.

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, iPads, Adobe programs like Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, digital cameras 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 Schools.

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 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 medium (and somewhat you may be not as experienced with).

Honors Section

There is an opportunity to take this course as an Honors course (an Honors Designation will be placed on your transcript if you complete the Honors course successfully). It requires additional project work and effort, but you will come out of it a better artist. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Pratt individually.

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, National Core Art Standards and expectations of the art department at Kensington Woods High School. These learning targets are designed to also prepare students for success in the next level of this course (Art2).

Listed below are 10 essential learning standards for Digital Art 1. 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. Discover and describe personal definition of art, giving examples and justifications for definition
2. Describe creativity and develop skills and techniques to access their creativity easier.
3. Develop and analyze personal creative process, using acquired knowledge and skills
4. Apply given media, materials and tools to the creative problem solving process with sufficient skill, confidence and sensitivity that intentions are carried out in their artworks
5. Apply introduced techniques and skills to the creative problem solving process with sufficient skill, confidence and sensitivity that intentions are carried out in their artworks
6. Create work that uses composition, the Elements and Principles of Art, media, materials and techniques to create conceptual and aesthetic meaning

7. Analyze and describe 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
8. Evaluate the quality and effectiveness of one's artwork through a variety of methods (writing, speaking, visual) based on aesthetic, technical and conceptual choices
9. Explore social and global issues through the application of the creative process.
10. Analyze the impact of visual culture on society.

Prerequisite knowledge/skills for success in this course

Students do not need to have any prior experience in art or technology to find success in this course. Instead, 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.

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| 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 their own and others work in and thoughtful and purposeful manner.</p> <p>Technology (both manual and computer based): Students will develop a deep understanding of technologies used in class</p> |
| Familiarity Level | <p>Research: Students will develop research skills (computer and book based) to research artists and artwork</p> <p>Technology (both manual and computer based): Students will develop familiarity with technologies used in class</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:

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.

SDHC Memory Card (4GB+) (optional, recommended)

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

Sketchbook (optional)

Minimum size: 5.5 in x 8.5 in.

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

You may wish to complete assignments and explorations in your sketchbook (it will be one of your options for some of your assignments). 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.+).

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.

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.

Supply Due Date: Monday, September 18, 2017

Important Notes about Supplies:

- You can often get great coupons from Michaels or Joann's by signing up for their email newsletter or their app.
- All supplies need to have your name 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:

Formative Assessments (formative means in process or learning is forming)

Includes daily work, sketches and critiques

10%: Process Assignments (formative)

Marking Period regular assignments like Photo a Day, Sketchbooks, etc.

70% Summative Assessments (summative means assessments that sum up your learning)

Includes major projects and reflections

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/ Electronic Devices

Cell phones and electronic devices are not allowed out during class during instruction or presentations/critiques 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 the Big Room. 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 your Google Drive and the school server. We will review the options in class. You also have the option of using a USB drive/Memory card, 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

Schedule

This is an overview of the year to give you an idea of what topics we will be covering. Please note that some things may change!

Most units contain multiple projects. All Units and majority of projects will include a critique and reflection. Critiques and reflections are completed using a variety of methods (including, but not limited to: writing, presentation, small group discussion, peer review, video, blogging)

Our essential question for the year is: **What is the role and responsibility of art to develop and change community?**

All of our projects will revolve around this question.

All units will cover the following major skills and concepts:

- Creative Process
- Development of technical skills
- Create work that communicates a specific message
- Reflection (oral, written)
- Analyzing and critiquing work
- Justification of opinion
- Discussion
- Art History
- Art Context
- Learning about/from artists
- Communication of ideas
- Problem solving

Unit 0 – What is Art?

In this unit, we will address what art is defined as, the process of making it and how we evaluate it

Unit 1 – Documenting your personal community

In this unit, we will learn how to use the cameras, upload and turn in our photos and investigate composition as well as what your personal community is.

Projects may include: Composition Scavenger Hunt, What is It? Project, Forced Perspective and Personal Community Project

Unit 2 – Language of Photography

In this unit, we will explore image exposure and how we interpret and analyze an image.

Projects may include: Exposure based projects (including light painting, depth of field, freezing motion), Storytelling Project, Documenting Biology project (tentative)

Unit 3 – The people in the community

In this unit, we will examine our community through the lens of portraiture as well as learn about lighting

Projects may include: Night photography (tentative), Lighting experiments, Light and Shadow, K Woods Double Exposure Portrait

Unit 4 – Semester 1 Final – Documentary Photography

In this unit, we will examine documentary photography and how it tells the story of a community. The final project (a documentary series) will be your Semester 1 final.

Unit 5 – Self-Image

In this unit, we will explore photo manipulation and how our self-image is affected by photography and photo manipulation

Projects may include: 12 days of Photoshop, Self-Portrait

Unit 6 – Communicating a vision

In this project, we will be introduced to graphic design and how symbols and logos communicate ideas. We will also be introduced to Illustrator

Projects may include: Element Designs, Symbol/Logo Design

Unit 7 – Social Justice

In this unit, we will examine social justice issues through poster design. We will also examine layout, typography, propaganda.

Projects may include: TypeFace, Propaganda Mini-Projects, Social Justice Poster

Unit 8 – Advertising for Change

In this unit, we will look at advertising and how it sends messages and how we can use it to send more positive, productive messages. We will also examine still life photography, studio lighting and layout.

Projects may include: Still Life photography, Advertising photo shoot, Advertisement for non-profit

Unit 9 – Working with others

In this unit, we will explore the idea of working for a client and how we can use that ability to do good. We will also examine typography, the printing process, screen printing and layout.

Projects may include: Typography mini-projects, K Woods T-Shirt Design, K Woods Planner Design, Kerrytown BookFest Cover Design

Unit 10 - Making art for the community – Semester 2 Final

In this unit, you will sum up everything we covered this year and address our course essential question: What is the role and responsibility of art to develop and change community? by creating art that develops or changes community.

Ongoing Projects

We will have a few ongoing projects that last the duration of the year that you will be given more information about soon.

- Process Projects – due at the end of every marking period. Vary each marking, but focused on developing the artistic process. Should be done on your own time or if finished in class early
- Photography/Designer Fridays – We will be taking time to regularly look at contemporary and historical artists as well as the history of photography and graphic design. There will be a summative project based off these experiences each semester.
- Yearbook photographer. More information and expectations will be released soon. Should be done on your own time or if finished in class early.

Extra Credit Opportunities

Extra Credit opportunities are given only when they align with the course standards and in limited amounts. Ideally, students revise projects if they are unhappy with their grade. This year, extra credit opportunities include:

- Extra credit will be given to students who go see a visual art show (museum, gallery, etc.) on their own time and write a 1-page detailed review of their experience (what did you like, didn't like and why? Analyze an artwork, etc.). Limited to 2 opportunities of extra credit per semester.
- Additional opportunities may be announced throughout the year.