

AP Summer work 2D Design portfolio

Summer 2025

First of all, let me say I am extremely pleased and proud of you for accepting the challenge of such a rigorous course. In August, we will talk in more detail about the specific requirements and how everything will flow. This summer in addition to a bit of summer work, I want to encourage you to go through your summer with a heightened awareness, take photos of EVERYTHING, document the textures, the moments, the laughter! Artists have always been great observers, interpreters, inventors and creators. Really take the time to look at things that most people do not see, explore with your eyes and heart and mind!!

The AP 2D Design studio course requires the completion of a portfolio of work for evaluation by the Advanced Placement Program of the College Board. This evaluation is separate and apart from the grade you will be given here at school.

Your portfolio will consist of 15 works for your Sustained Investigation and 5 works for your Selected work.

The goal of summer assignments:

Summer assignments help alleviate the pressure during the school year of having to produce the required number of pieces needed for a successful passing portfolio. You will hopefully learn something about yourself this summer and find different materials and styles that suit you best.

Please keep a working sketchbook over the summer. This documentation will help you tremendously as you learn more about the portfolio. You will need to keep track of doodles and anything that you might do when you are planning or playing around, experimenting. Take your sketchbook with you wherever you go, try to collect samples of leaves or bark or wrappers,

The AP 2-D Art and Design course framework is made up of three big ideas. As always, you have the flexibility to organize the course content as you like.

- Big Idea 1: Investigate materials, processes, and ideas.
- Big Idea 2: Make art and design.
- Big Idea 3: Present art and design.

Course Skills

The AP Art and Design framework included in the course and exam description outlines distinct skills that students should practice throughout the year—skills that will help them learn to think and act like artists. Skills 2 and 3 are specifically assessed in both portfolio sections (Sustained Investigation and Selected Works).

| Skill | Description |
|---|--|
| 1. Inquiry and Investigation | Investigate materials, processes, and ideas. |
| 2. Making Through Practice, Experimentation, and Revision | Make works of art and design by practicing, experimenting, and revising. |
| 3. Communication and Reflection | Communicate ideas about art and design. |

Our class time is not sufficient for the preparation of the quality and quantity of work necessary for a portfolio meeting the requirements of this program. Considerable time outside of class will be necessary.

As an indication of your interests, willingness, and ability to work independently, the following assignments to be completed over the course of the summer are required. These will be the first six grades of the fall term. A lack of preparation may indicate that your continued participation in this class is not your best interest. Each work should be finished completely; unfinished work will be graded as such. Remember each work should reflect 6-10 hours of work and consist of a range of quality materials. Please do not work any larger than 18x24 for these assignments. Please consider over all craftsmanship and quality of composition. If you plan to turn in photographs, they should be printed the way you would like them to be critiqued.

Instructions for Summer Work

You will need a good quality sketch book, 11" x 14". You will also need large drawing paper that will allow for drawings 16" X 20". Any media, Charcoal, pencil, color of black and white is fine. Always use spray fix to protect your work or use a cover sheet. Please use the Elements of Art and Principles of design always as a reference point while working on each drawing assignment. Your only limitations are it must be completed on a "flat" surface, which does not include canvases.

Remember the goal of your summer work is to create extra art to be potentially used as a buffer for pieces that may not work out during the school year. The other reason summer work is important is typically you will have a larger chunk of time to work on something which often leads to strong results that will greatly benefit you later. The last reason I love summer work is it gives you a space to go crazy and try things you wouldn't normally try, so try new things, its better to experiment now and then revise it, this learning curve will help you so much through the school year!

Supplies

11"X14" good quality sketchbook, Drawing pencils (2B, 4B, 6B, 8, or 9B), Sharpie marker (fine point), charcoal, charcoal pencil, ball point pen



AP Board references:

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-2-d-art-and-design>

Assignment 1 (actually minimum of 3 works) – Create a series of **3-5 drawings** that will be a group or series based on the same idea. This will be a good time to consider your sustained investigation. A sustained investigation is a collection of works that are based off the same idea or concept. You can google “AP 2D Design sustained investigation ideas” You may choose from the topics below, or use one of your own good ideas. I would also look at mini concentration ideas, I would make these works 9x12 or larger, try different types of paper, cardboard etc., think outside the box. Innovation is a great skill to develop during the summer, if you mess it up, we can brainstorm ways to revise your works later.

1. Different views of the same room.

2. A landscape you can observe, draw it a different times of the day, render it in different color combinations.
3. A fantasy of dream.
4. A political or social theme.
5. An object or group of objects seen from an unusual viewpoint



Assignment 2-6

Drawing 2. Still life or Kitchen table or counter set up with objects that involve pattern and a surface that reflect and some that have textures. This drawing should focus on correct perspective, a broad range (at least five) or values, and a strong composition. Focus on training your eye to see details, not what you think you see. Consider reflective surfaces as an option. You can use board game pieces that have symbolism towards your family history or add another element of telling a story with the objects.

If you have an idea for your sustained investigation let the objects feed into the narrative of your overall ideas you might want to explore in your portfolio.





Assignment 3.

Mixed Media

Do some exploration of Mixed Media artist and their materials. Do a piece (still-life, portrait, landscape, or self-portrait) in which you use at least 3 different media such as: wet medium, a dry medium, and a collage element. Ideas/examples: adhere/attach (sew, staple, paste, gesso, or gloss medium) a section of collage elements of varying thicknesses, work with the element of texture and experiment adding texture to the paint like sand or crushed dry leaves.



Drawing 4. A self portrait that shows something about yourself. Avoid the

Standard straight on approach unless you can do something unique

with this. Consider your expression and head angle. Volume will be

important along with a range of value in the hair. "Who are you really?" "Try to capture your "Character", think about facial expression? Try and do something unusual or unexpected? Try distorting certain aspects, emphasizing certain facial features. Try to think from a different perspective: birds eye view, worms eye view.





Drawing 5- A landscape that shows both near and far. This must be done from observation, so consider your backyard a landscape. You need to use perspective techniques, the 6 ways to show depth on a flat surface, you can use your own style, go more abstract or realism.....fauvist.....



For those of you who have taken AP before you may also select from the following prompts:

First, since you have experience, you know the importance of documentation and experimentation and practice.... consider your summer work your evidence you will apply to your final works this school year, feel free to explore new concepts, challenge yourself to play and use different surfaces. If I have 5 works, you will be doing great, please show your thought process in your sketchbook and be prepared for critique when you return to school. Ask yourself why you are using the materials you are using? Please begin the brainstorming process of your inquiry questions and begin developing ideas you find interesting.

6. Draw an extreme close up of food to the point of distortion/abstraction. Be very detailed. Cut up fruits and veggies and look closely for interesting abstract qualities, focus on use of color.
7. Drawing an unusual interior: closet, cabinet, refrigerator, inside car, under engine hood, use your camera take several photos of several angles, combine into one image or use as references.
8. Combine text, magazines, surface textures, non-traditional materials, at least 5 layers.
9. Remember 2D design is about Elements of Art and Principles of design, design an extreme headpiece, handbag, other article of clothing, design wall paper etc...think about pattern/movement, think about repetition and color scheme...look at art movements and research and parallel their style with your design.
10. Hands drawing: overlapping, movement, contour lines, shading/value, gestural lines, take images of hands in at least 10 different poses, draws separately then attach and overlap or transfer and demonstrate 10 layers of depth on the surface of your paper or whatever surface you choose.
11. Go OUTSIDE!!!!!! Take your camera, sketchbook, collect objects, observe, take pictures of textures and colors, symmetry, listen, watch how the wind moves things, document, concentrate, gather all your research and create a collage of a series of images of your experience or choose your favorite images and combine to make one work of art, push your level of contrast and choose something to Emphasize!!

SO when you come to school, make sure you have a minimum of 4 prompts (note the mini concentration series of 305 small drawings is technically 1 prompt) Those of you who have taken AP before also 4 prompts but strive to start addressing questions you think you might want to investigate!!

Optional Summer Book Review concerning the following book;

** Culture Making- Recovering our Creative Calling, by Author Andy Crouch

This is a great book explaining the culture that we create as artists. Every artist should read this at some point in their life.

