**Senior Survey**

Mrs. Peters

Fall 2014

**Rationale:**

At one time, Senior Survey was presented as more of an “independent study” in art. While students were expected to come up with a lesson plan before starting a new project and participate in class critiques and a senior show, I decided last year that it was time to step up requirements and begin exploring the idea of an AP art class. While it would be a while, I feel, before I would be comfortable trying to make it an *actual* AP class, there is no doubt that a class that more closely resembles an AP or college art course would be beneficial to students looking to continue with art in their future.

**Requirements (to be completed over the course of a year-long class):**

1. All projects completed by students must be original in concept and execution. While it is OK to emulate a technique (for example, Pointillism or Cubism) used by another artist, it is not OK to completely copy an existing work of art. Also, while it is fine to use photographs taken by others as reference, if a student recreates a photograph (for example, if the student chooses to do a realistic drawing of a photograph), then the photograph must have been taken by that student. Projects taken from websites such as Pinterest will not be accepted toward the student’s portfolio.
2. Completion of six observational drawings, which means drawing from a still-life or what is actually in front of the student rather than from photographs as reference. No matter what type of art the student plans to pursue in the future, including photography and computer graphics, strong drawing skills at the college level and in artistic careers is a must. If a student feels that he or she is not where they need to be with regards to drawing, I would like to offer optional drawing seminars during 8th hour two days a week. While this will be open to any student, it will be highly recommended to Senior Survey students who need it.
3. Selection of an emphasis for the student’s portfolio in either 2D, 3D, or Drawing.
4. 2D Art emphasis may be completed in a mix of any 2-dimensional media including ink, pencil, pastel, acrylic, watercolor, oil, prints, etc. The student’s portfolio of work must demonstrate the following:
5. Breadth – 12 2-dimenstional works that demonstrate the student’s understanding of the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design.
6. Concentration – A group of 12 pieces that explore the same concept or idea. Some of the pieces may be studies as part of a larger piece.
7. Quality – 5 of the student’s best pieces. These may not be the same pieces used in either the Breadth or Concentration portion of the portfolio.
8. 3D Art emphasis may be completed in any 3-dimensional media including metals, glass, clay, wood, recycled materials, etc. The student’s portfolio of work must demonstrate the following:
9. Breadth – 12 3-dimenstional works that demonstrate the student’s understanding of the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design.
10. Concentration – A group of 8 pieces that explore the same concept or idea. Some of the pieces may be studies as part of a larger piece.
11. Quality – 5 of the student’s best pieces. These may not be the same pieces used in either the Breadth or Concentration portion of the portfolio.
12. Drawing emphasis may be completed in any drawing media including ink, pencil, conte crayon, pastel, charcoal, etc. The student’s portfolio of work must demonstrate the following:
13. Breadth – 12 drawings that demonstrate the student’s understanding of the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design.
14. Concentration – A group of 12 pieces that explore the same concept or idea. Some of the pieces may be studies as part of a larger piece.
15. Quality – 5 of the student’s best pieces. These may not be the same pieces used in either the Breadth or Concentration portion of the portfolio.
16. Completion of a 1-page Artist Statement that explores the artist’s work, growth, and influences in a concise and descriptive manner. This will be completed through a process beginning early in the second semester and will take the student through the entire sequence from brainstorming through to the final product, which will be used for display purposes.
17. Participation in all class critiques (approximately every 2 to2-1/2 weeks) and all portfolio checks (four times per quarter). Rather than presenting only completed projects as was required in the past, students will also be required to put any in – progress projects up during critique in order to receive constructive criticism leading to a higher-quality finished piece. All student projects should reflect study of a particular cultural or historical influence.
18. Participation in the Senior Show, which is held the last week of the Senior Survey course. Students will be responsible for the entire set-up of the show including advertising, setting up display panels, creating name tags, hanging the artwork, and tear-down at the culmination of the show.
19. Turning in a completed portfolio at the end of the course. Both the portfolio and the Senior Show will be considered the final for the course.

**Optional Activities** – These will be strongly encouraged among the Senior Survey students but not required toward a class grade.

1. Participation in drawing seminars to be held twice a week during 8th period for any student needing to supplement drawing skills. The seminar will begin with the basics of contour drawing and explore value, creating volume, exploring light, life drawing, learning to draw things as they really are rather than how the student expects them to look, and a variety of different drawing media. The intention of this is to give the opportunity to strengthen drawing skills for students in all art classes.
2. Participation in “open art studio” nights to be held once or twice a month. The art room would be open from after school until 8 PM to give students the opportunity to complete work they are not able to get done in class without having to take artwork and messy supplies home.
3. Selection for inclusion of the student’s work in the “Spartan Gallery.”
4. Selection for inclusion of the student’s work in the Quad City Arts Festival of Trees High School Art Exhibit.
5. Selection for inclusion of the student’s work in the Quad City Arts High School Art Invitational (only 5 students per teacher per school allowed).
6. Submission of a portfolio for the Brand Scholarship offered by the Figge Art Museum. This is a $12,000 scholarship paid over the course of four years.
7. Any additional art contests, exhibits, programs, and scholarships as they become available.
8. Participation in Art Club.