Digital Photography

Mrs. Peters

Fall 2014

**During This Course you will explore:**

* The vocabulary and language of photography
* The elements of art and the principles of design
* Art criticism and theories of art as they apply to photography
* Aesthetics
* Use of media, methods, and techniques to create photographs
* Historical periods of photography

**Requirements:**

* **A folder** for all handouts, notes, and sketches.
* **Participation.** This is Art I, not study hall. Be present, take part in discussions, and use work time to the fullest potential. You will be graded on this. See below.
* **Competence.** You should display competence by keeping track of due dates and being prepared for critique.
* **Responsibility.** This means being clean, safe, and respectful in the studio. Treat supplies, school property, and others with respect.

**Grading:**

* I grade using a straight points-earned system. There is no weighting or grading on a curve in this class. Your grade runs continuously throughout the semester, so your 2nd quarter grade will match your semester grade in the portal.

**Participation:**

* At the beginning of each quarter, you will be given 40 participation points.
* These points are yours to keep or lose depending on clean-up, independent working time, your behavior in class, etc.
* You cannot earn these points back. Use your time wisely.

**Class Website:**

* www.aimeepeters.weebly.com > Click on “Student Central”
* This website includes ALL handouts from class.
* Here, you can find information on what we are doing in class, and when things are due.
* “Artist of the Week” is located here.
* You can contact me 24/7…I even respond on weekends!
* This website is for YOU; use it continuously to be successful.

**How do I reach Mrs. Peters?**

*During school hours:*

* Room 287 – During 6th Period and 8th Period Resource

*Outside school hours:*

* Use the “Contact Mrs. Peters” link on the Student Central website.
* Email me at petersaimee@pleasval.k12.ia.us

**Mrs. Peters’ Policy on Cell Phone/Device Usage:**

* You CAN have your phone out for research and other purposes.
* If your device is distracting you from work, the District Policy will apply. (*below*)
* Headphones are allowed ONLY on studio days when there is no lecture or demo.

**District Policy on Cell Phone/Device Usage:**

“Students are not allowed to use their cell phone or electronic device during class time. Students not following this policy will have their phones or electronic devices confiscated and will receive a Wednesday or Saturday detention session.”

* 1st Violation: Detention (Wed/Sat) – Pick up device at end of day.
* 2nd Violation: Detention (Wed/Sat) – Parent pick up device.
* 3rd Violation: Detention – Parent contacted for meeting.

**Notice of Non-Discrimination:**

“It is the policy of the Pleasant Valley Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of sex, age, religion, race, color, disabilities, or national origin in the education program or activities, which it operates.”

Let’s have a successful semester!

**Writing About Art**

**What is a Guiding Question?**

* A guiding question is the same thing as a mission statement in the form of a question.
* When a great artist begins a project, they always ask, “What do I wish to achieve or learn through the production of this work?”
* Why complete a task if there is no purpose?
* Your Artist Statement will answer your guiding question, whether you succeed or fail. See Back.

**How are you Inspired?**

* Inspiration is anything that aided in your desire to create the project, modify the work in a certain way, or encouraged a specific theme.
* You can be inspired by ANYTHING!
* All artists are inspired and every project is a reflection of a specific person, place, or thing. Use the world around you!
* Inspiration can be difficult, try looking at magazines, picture books, contemporary artist websites, etc.

**Plan, Plan, Plan!**

* Every work of art needs a plan!
* Sketch or write about your ideas! If you don’t plan, you WILL NOT be successful.
* Picasso’s napkin drawings sell for millions of dollars! He planned!
* Your inspirations and plans go hand in hand. Take pictures of anything that interests you and sketch them as organized thoughts and ideas.

**What is a Growth Statement?**

* Growth statements are the same thing as a reflection.
* This should be included in your Artist Statement. See Back.
* WHAT DID YOU LEARN about yourself, your art work, your peers, your environment, your neighborhood, your thoughts, your actions, your relationships, etc.?
* If you make artwork and didn’t grow at all, then you have been unsuccessful and/or unmotivated.
* DO NOT start a project that you aren’t interested in. If you aren’t motivated, change your inspiration and/or ask another guiding question.
* You should always be challenging yourself to do better. People don’t change the world by sitting back and doing what everybody else is doing. Be the change!
* Growth statements don’t need to be long, simply discuss how you changed as a person and why you made certain decisions.
* Did you succeed? Did you fail? HOW???? WHY????

**How do I write an Artist Statement?**

*Artist Statements are a written passage about your work of art that include:*

* The purpose for creating the work.
* Your inspiration for the work.
* What artists, if any, did you analyze and reflect on?
* What did you intend the work to be.
* How did you change or modify your plans?
* What did you do well or what are you pleased with?
* What challenges did you encounter and how did you solve them?
* How did you grow as an artist or person? (See Growth Statement on first page)
* What did you learn? (Answer your Guiding Question)
* Normally, your work will not turn out the way you planned.
* IT IS OK TO FAIL! Write about how you could do it better if you had the chance to do the project again. What would you change?
* Do not simply say, “I like the color blue so I made it blue.” Why do you like blue? What colors go well with blue and why? DO YOUR RESEARCH!
* You are talking about yourself in your Artist Statement; don’t try to please an audience by using big, fancy words. Write in your own words.
* MOST IMPORTANTLY, Artist Statements should include specific vocabulary when describing your work and the work of others: