

West Linn–Wilsonville School District

The Arts – Course Statement

Course Title: Art IIIB-Acrylic Painting / Painting: Acrylics

Length of Course:	Semester
Number of Credits:	1
Grade Level:	10, 11, 12 (also grade 9 – WHS)
Prerequisites:	Art I / Art Media (& Art II for WLHS)
CIM Work Samples	
Offered in Course:	Speaking work sample

Date of Description/Revision: July 2006

Course Overview

This course is designed to introduce the art student to the acrylic paint media. Included in the course is the study of color theory, the use of appropriate brushes, pallet knives, painting surfaces, color mixing, and compositions involving landscape, portraiture, seascape, still life and non-representational or abstract subject matter. Students will create, critique, evaluate, and appreciate works of art. Art history will be infused into the course throughout the term.

Essential Questions

Concepts providing focus for student learning

- What is art?
- How do I know what “good” art is?
- Why do we create?
- What do I find beautiful?
- What is an Artist?
- How do artists come up with original ideas?
- How can I best use materials and the elements and principles of design to visually depict my ideas?

Proficiency Statements

Upon completion of course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the techniques involved in the particular medium including: color mixing, creating various textures, etc.
- Conceive and create original works of art that solve challenging visual arts problems using intellectual skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.
- Demonstrate the ability to formulate written analyses of ones own work and to explain to others the motivations, goals, and self evaluation of the work.
- Analyze relationships of works of art to one another in terms of history, aesthetics, and culture; justifying conclusions made and using these conclusions in the creation of their own work.
- Reflect analytically on various interpretations as a means for understanding and critiquing works of art (one’s own and others’).

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- Come up with original ideas for compositions using the students' own sketchbooks, photographs, or methods that the teacher has shown incorporating writing and the visual arts.
- Write about art.
- Communicate their ideas regularly at a high level of effectiveness through their drawings.
- Create drawings using a wide variety of media at a high level of proficiency.
- Describe the origins of specific images and ideas and explain why they are of value in their artwork and that of others.
- Describe and analyze the meaning of art objects within varied cultures, times, and places.
- Reflect analytically on their own and others' artworks using the technique of art criticism in an organized way.
- Evaluate and critique artwork realizing that their own aesthetic view will determine their judgment about a particular piece of style of art.
- Be familiar with career opportunities in the visual arts; will know what one needs to do to prepare for these careers.
- Learn about portfolio development and what art colleges look for in a potential student
- Be more visually literate and able to apply the knowledge gained in this course throughout their years for a lifetime of enjoyment and understanding of the visual arts.
- Know the leisure benefits of art as a lifelong activity.

General Course Topics/Units & Timeframes

A. Creation of Art

- Basic elements and principles of design
- Studies in color theory and color mixing; techniques using a variety of brushes and palette knives, paint applications and consistencies, and paint surfaces; experience in using various acrylic media and additives and their technical approaches
- Variety of subject matter (especially standard portfolio pieces such as portraiture, still life, landscape, seascape, and abstraction)
- Observational skills and development of imagination/compositional ideas

B. Critique

Students will display and discuss their work throughout the semester utilizing the elements and principles of design. All projects will be criteria-based and will be evaluated according to the criteria. Students will engage in individual, small group, and whole class critiques. The techniques of description, analysis, interpretation, and judgment will be used in discussing both student work and professional/famous artists' works.

C. Art History/Culture

While it is impossible to adequately teach art history within the context of a studio course, students will nonetheless come to understand that art reflects, records, and shapes history and plays a role in every culture. Reproductions of pertinent works of art will be shown throughout the course. Students will see how professional artists used techniques or approaches specific to design problems/subject matter that the students will confront. Approaches to painting from throughout history will be looked at.

D. Aesthetics

Students will understand their own aesthetic values. They will learn to recognize design elements and will be able to discuss them and apply them in their own and others' work. They

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will be able to use analogies and descriptors in conveying the interrelationships in observed works of art, nature, and life.

Resources

- Text: *Art Talk*, Rosalind Ragans, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill.
- Text: *Themes and Foundations of Art*, Katz, E., Lankford, E., and Plank, J., West Publishing Company.
- Text: *The Art Book*, Phaidon Press.
- Text: *New American Paintings*, Open Studio Press.
- Text: *Acrylic Painting: A Complete Guide*, Wendon Blake, Dover Publications.
- Text: Catalog resources; slides and prints
- Other: Guest artist speakers, museum and gallery visits, Internet research