

8th Grade Art 3 Syllabus Outline

Jessica Risenhoover – Lake Dallas Middle School

Semester 1, Fall 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to 8th Grade Art 3 at Lake Dallas Middle School! This syllabus outlines the course plan for your child's class this semester, including key topics, expectations, and how you can support their success. As required by Texas law (Senate Bill 12), this document serves as the instructional plan and is available for your review. I look forward to working with you and your child.

Contact Information

- **Teacher:** Jessica Risenhoover
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 - **Conference Time:** 9:24 am - 10:09 am, Monday - Friday
 - **Best Way to Reach Me:** Email or call the school office. I will respond to your message within 24 hours on school days.
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Course Overview (Instructional Plan)

This semester, your child will study the following topics in Art 3, based on Texas state standards, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS):

1. Unit 1: Concepts of Art and Identity

- Learning Objectives:
 - i. Analyze how artists represent themes of community, identity, and connection through visual choices.
 - ii. Create artwork that reflects the student's own interpretation of community using advanced composition and technique.
 - iii. Demonstrate confident and intentional use of the Elements of Art and Principles of Design in original artwork.
 - iv. Use visual vocabulary fluently in critique, discussion, and written reflection.
- TEKS: §117.204 b(1)(A), b(1)(B), b(1)(C), b(1)(D), b(2)(A)

2. Unit 2: Introduction to Artistic Voice

- Learning Objectives:
 - i. Define and explore the concept of "artistic voice" through guided reflection, media experimentation, and analysis of other artists' work.
 - ii. Begin to identify personal themes, symbols, styles, and techniques that feel authentic to the student's experiences and interests.
 - iii. Create artwork that reflects a growing sense of identity and personal perspective.
 - iv. Make intentional creative choices in subject, composition, media, and style to communicate meaning.
- TEKS: §117.204 b(1)(A), b(1)(B), b(1)(C), b(1)(D), b(2)(C), b(3)(C)

3. Unit 3: Line & Movement, Color & Unity

- Learning Objectives:
 - i. Explore expressive color and create artworks that reflect intentional use of color theory and compositional harmony.
 - ii. Use gestural, implied, and contour lines for expressive purposes.

- iii. Analyze how movement and rhythm influence visual storytelling and aesthetic impact.
- iv. Incorporate these elements to create dynamic, engaging compositions.
- TEKS: §117.204 b(1)(B), b(1)(C), b(1)(D), b(2)(A), b(2)(B), b(2)(C)

4. Unit 4: Photography & Repetition

- Learning Objectives:
 - i. Explore the basic principles of photography, including composition, framing, lighting, and point of view.
 - ii. Analyze and apply repetition as a visual tool to create rhythm, emphasis, and unity in photographic and mixed-media compositions.
 - iii. Evaluate how contemporary and historical photographers use repetition to communicate ideas or emotions.
 - iv. Create a final photo-based project that uses repetition intentionally to reflect a personal or thematic concept.
- TEKS: §117.204 b(1)(C), b(1)(D), b(2)(A), b(2)(C), b(2)(D), b(3)(A), b(3)(D)

5. Unit 5: Space & Texture

- Learning Objectives:
 - i. Demonstrate accurate use of two-point perspective to create the illusion of 3D space on a 2D surface.
 - ii. Integrate texture to enhance depth, mood, or narrative in a composition.
 - iii. Communicate a personal or social theme through spatial design and textural choices.
 - iv. Analyze how artists use space and texture to guide viewer interpretation and support meaning.
- TEKS: §117.204 b(1)(B), b(1)(C), b(1)(D), b(2)(B), b(2)(C), b(3)(C)

6. Unit 6: Form & Variety

- Learning Objectives:
 - i. Create complex 3D artworks using a range of materials and processes.
 - ii. Use variety to challenge visual expectations and engage the viewer.
 - iii. Analyze form and variety in contemporary art and how they influence meaning.
- TEKS: §117.204 b(1)(B), b(1)(C), b(1)(D), b(2)(B), b(2)(C), b(3)(A)

7. Additional Skills/Activities

- Develop creative thinking, problem-solving, and time management skills. TEKS: §117.202 b(1)(D), b(2)(B)
- Develop organizational skills and material craftsmanship. TEKS: §117.202 b(2)(B), b(2)(C)
- Participate in class-wide artwork critique discussions as well as independent self-critiques, learning to evaluate professional, personal, and peer artworks. TEKS: §117.202 b(1)(A), b(1)(D), b(4)(A), b(4)(B)
- Activities: Sketchbook assignments, art history and career discussions, and technical skill builders. TEKS: §117.202 b(2)(B), b(2)(C), b(3)(A), b(3)(D)

Thank you for supporting your child's education! Feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Jessica Risenhoover