

Foundations of Art Syllabus

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Foundations of Art is a hands-on course that is structured around the Elements of Art (Line, Shape, Form, Color, Texture, Value, and Space.) Projects will be created with a wide range of both traditional and contemporary materials. Each assignment will help students to understand an Element of Art and how it can be used to create visual imagery. Projects in this course are designed for a wide range of ability levels and all assignments can be altered to suit the needs of diverse learners. Fine motor skills, decision-making, personal expression, and self-confidence will be improved through participation in Foundations of Art.

GOALS

- Create art with many materials (paint, pencil, clay).
- Respond to art (say what you see, how it makes you feel).
- Present art (share and explain your work).
- Connect art to history, culture, and your life.

OBJECTIVES

- Improve fine motor skills.
- Develop decision-making abilities.
- Understand the properties and uses of several art mediums.
- Demonstrate self-expression through the making of art.
- Increase self-confidence.

MATERIALS

All required materials will be supplied by the school.

POSSIBLE PROJECTS (Subject to change)

- Drawing
- Painting
- Ceramics
- Sculpture
- Digital Art
- Printmaking
- Photography

EXPECTATIONS

- Try your best—mistakes help us learn!
- Respect classmates and their art.
- Take care of tools and materials.
- Be ready to share your art.

UNITS OF STUDY

Quarter 1: Exploring Art and Creativity

- Learn about **line, shape, color, value, and texture**.
- Practice safe use of tools and materials.
- Try drawing, painting, and mixed media projects.
- Learn how to talk about what you see in art (patterns, shapes, colors).

Quarter 2: Art in Culture and History

- Learn about **space and form** in art.
- Explore how people in different times and places made art.
- Create projects inspired by prehistoric and community art.
- Learn how to **present artwork** in a collection or display.

POLICIES

Cell Phone Policy: According to state law, phones should be turned off or placed on silent and stowed away (in a backpack or left in your vehicle) for the duration of the school day. If you leave the room, your phone stays in the classroom. Failure to comply will result in having your phone taken and brought to the office.

Tardies/UVs: Studio time is necessary for completing work. Five tardies for class or an unverified absence will result in detention.

Academic Integrity Policy: The learners and staff at West Fargo Public Schools value academic honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty (cheating) is unacceptable because it threatens the ability of a learner to learn the material, violates our behavior expectations in a variety of ways, including disrespecting other learners and the educator, as well as violating the expectation of conducting oneself with honesty and integrity.

Academic Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying another learner's work
- Submitting work that was completed by someone else as if it were your own
- Plagiarism
- Using unauthorized materials or apps to complete any assessment
- Completing work in a group when not authorized to do so by the educator

Learner Self Advocacy: WFPS is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities to all students. Please remind me if I forget to provide modifications or accommodations based on your ILP, 504 or IEP.

GRADING PROCEDURES

Completed projects will be graded using a rubric which ties learning objectives to points earned.

- Major projects & semester portfolio: 80-100 points each
- Artist Statements/Reflections: 20-25 points each
- Critique participation: 10 points each

Due Dates: All work should be submitted on Schoology by 11:59 pm the day that it is due if not turned in during class time that day. Late work WILL still be accepted

Project Extensions: If you feel you need extra time to complete a project, have a conversation with me least three days prior to the due date. You must have a valid reason for the extension (for example, wasting class time is not a valid excuse).

Late Work Policy: All work missed because of an *excused* absence (illness, injury, or emergency) must be completed. Example: If you miss a block on Monday, the assignment is due on Friday. **It is the learners' responsibility to ask for the assignments they missed.**

Learners who will have an excused absence for an *activity* or *trip* must complete all assignments **BEFORE** they leave. **It is the learners' responsibility to ask the teacher for their work IN ADVANCE** and turn it in before they leave. If the learner fails to pick up and turn in the work before they leave it is considered late.

Any work that is not turned in by the due date will be marked as "Missing" in the grade book.

- If you have an extension arranged with me, your work will only be listed as "Missing" in the grade book, but not as a zero (it will not affect your overall grade).
- If you do not have an extension approved, or missed your new extension date, work will be listed as "Missing" and as a zero in the grade book (which will affect your grade). When you turn in your work, it will be graded off the rubric. ***Late work cannot be guaranteed to be graded and updated until the following week.**

ART ROOM RULES:

BE RESPECTFUL:

- All people in this room are equals and are deserving of mutual respect at all levels.
- Behavior or speech that is discriminatory or undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual is not tolerated.
- It is my job to teach you. It is your job to actively watch and listen when I am speaking.

BE RESPONSIBLE:

- Be in class and prepared **before** the bell rings.
- Manage your time to meet deadlines. YOU are in charge of your own learning!
- **Cell phones off and put away**

BE SAFE:

- Use tools appropriately. If you don't know how, ask. If you purposefully use it inappropriately, you lose the privilege of using that tool.
- Clean any spills right away. Wet floors are dangerous.
- No food in the classroom. Sealed water bottles are okay or spill free lids. Art supplies can be harmful if ingested!

BE KIND:

- Accept and embrace differences. We are all different, and that is what makes our classroom a vibrant, interesting space!
- Treat others the way you want to be treated.

ART ROOM PROCEDURES:

As soon as you enter the room, follow the directions on the board / daily slides.

- If you are late, you are marked tardy & are not permitted to leave the room until the last half of the block if absolutely necessary.
- If you are VERY late, you will be marked as unexcused for the day.
- If you are repeatedly late, we will make use of the MTSS Flowchart and OSB, with escalating penalties applied. You will need to make up that time with me before or after school.

Bathroom/locker use during class uses E-HALL PASS, up to teacher discretion.

- You must ask to go leave the room and use E-HALL PASS on your iPad.
- The maximum time you are allowed to be gone is 5-7 minutes.
- If you misuse this, you will lose the ability to leave the room.

Listening to music on work days is up to teacher discretion.

- Put on a playlist ON YOUR IPAD (not phone) and put the device away to minimize distractions.
- Headphones/earbuds off during instructional time.
- Volume should be low – protect your ears! I should not be able to hear your music.

In order to leave the room at the end of class, the room must be clean and arranged neatly.

- You will have 2-10 minutes to clean up at the end of class, depending on the project. You will not receive a pass if you choose to clean up late, or do not clean up adequately before the bell.
- Neatly store your projects, sketches and assignments in order to keep them safe and presentable.
- You are responsible for cleaning your supplies and your area. If you want to have nice things, you need to take care of them!

Contact Hours:

If you email or Schoology message me, I will try to reply within 24 hours of receiving your message during the school hours (8:00-3:50). This means that you may not receive a response over the weekend, holidays, or other no school days.

Talk to me!

I want you to make the most of this class as possible and I want you to enjoy taking this course. If at any time there is anything I can do to make you feel more comfortable, confident and/or successful in the art room, do not hesitate to connect with me via email, Schoology message or in-person!