

Visual Arts I, II, III

Syllabus 2026-27

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Instructional Materials:

Giles County High School will make instructional materials available for review within 10 days of a written parental request.

Course Description

The Visual Arts program at Giles County High School offers students a way to encourage awareness of the arts and gain **CONFIDENCE** in their personal ability to create. This is achieved by presenting each student with individual choice-based challenges and projects that encourage each of them to explore the content and media covered. Students will utilize this knowledge and experiences through developing works of art by drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpting, critiquing, presenting, and more. ***Art is not only creativity, it is also problem solving that can be improved with practice. Anyone can create successful artworks.***

Art Supplies:

- Sketchbooks are **required** for classes, if you are not able to get a sketchbook one can be made in class.
- ALL if not MOST of the supplies required for this class will be provided. Extra or personal materials that students wish to use to enhance their artwork are welcome but will be required to be kept in the art room or the student will be responsible for keeping up with the supplies.
- DONATIONS OF ART SUPPLIES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!!! Everything and Anything that can be used for the art room will be taken and appreciated!

Standards:

All lessons provided will be made to fit the [National Core Art Standards](#) for Visual Arts or [TN Standards for Visual Arts](#).

All content, topics covered, and projects are SUBJECTIVE and will be determined by the teacher's evaluation of student progress and advancement.

Studio/Lecture Days

Studio Days: These days will consist of the Bellwork assignment and then time in class to work on a project or multiple activity days. Instruction will still occur but this is the time to work, ask questions and discuss the making process with the teacher and peers.

Lecture Days: These days will consist of the Bellwork assignment and a large portion of the class being lecture or interactive demonstrations to explain techniques or concepts. There may be a little time to work on practice activities or start a project.

Teacher Expectations for Success from Students:

1.	Let the Teacher Teach - Listen while teaching so you know what to do
2.	Tools Not Toys - Do not disrespect the room or supplies
3.	Don't Be A Hater - Respect each other and your artwork
4.	Trust the Process - Following the steps that I provide will usually give the best outcomes and timelines in artworks. Also, always finish an artwork because it always goes through an ugly phase.
5.	If You Know It, Do It / If You Don't, Ask! - Use class time wisely, and ask if you are lost!

Grading Requirements:

1. Grades: Rubrics will be provided on Google Classroom

- i. Projects: 40% -Major projects that cover a unit of information.
- ii. Activities: 30% -Small practice projects in between units to explain techniques or ideas.
- iii. Sketchbooks: 30% -Weekly grades to explore, practice, and keep information.

2. Homework: Students will not intentionally be given any homework during the semester. However, if it is due on a certain date and not completed it will result as homework/makeup work.

3. Extra Credit: If a student is completely finished with what is currently assigned and asked for permission, there will be crafts, activities, drawing prompts and other opportunities for extra credit.

4. Failing/Late Work: If a student is behind on assignments, projects, or absent, that student has been notified and given opportunities to turn in work or finish up missing assignments by taking assignments home (in a folder or portfolio) or given reasonable extensions. All zeros mean that it has not been turned in.

Cell Phones:

Students will follow the phone policy in the GCHS student handbook.

Dress Code:

Students are responsible to wear appropriate clothing in the art room. Clothing has the potential to get paint, glue, graphite, charcoal, etc, and may stain or become permanent on clothing. Limited aprons and shirt covers will be provided to help prevent any staining, but it is also the students' responsibility to follow art supplies procedures.

General Consequences (depending on circumstance):

General Discipline rules will be followed according to the Giles County High School Student Handbook. Parents will be contacted if there are any concerns on behavior or grades and a plan of action will be created for the betterment of the student.

Parents Please Be Advised

Some of the curriculum for Art History deals with mature subject matter such as war & violence as well as humanism, including some artworks which contain nudity (realistic, implied, animated). While this is not the main focus of the class and it will be avoided as much as possible, I do want you to be aware of this component of the curriculum. These works will be presented in a mature and dignified manner with an emphasis on the artist's overall message, art-making techniques, and the intent of the work as well as the historical significance to the world at the time it was created.

Some examples of these works may include (but are not limited to):

- Prehistoric fertility statue "The Venus of Willendorf" approx. 25,000 B.C.
- Michelangelo's *"Ceiling of the Sistine Chapel"* 1508-1512 A.D.
- Michelangelo's statue *"David"* 1501-1504 A.D.

Some art supplies, if used incorrectly, can be used in a manner that may harm oneself or another. The students will have demonstrations on how to use the materials properly and safely and will be monitored during class, but if the student chooses to abuse their materials it will affect their grade and will have other consequences determined by the situation.

If there are any questions or concerns please contact me through School Status and I will be happy to discuss anything to help your child in my classroom.¹

¹*Attention: ***This syllabus may be changed at any time to help better suit the functionality of the classroom and to improve the education of the students.*** Notice to students and parents will be given if anything is substantially changed.