**Curriculum**

**Introduction to Art**

**Course Overview**

Introduction to Art provides students with an introduction to a range of visual art media and techniques including: drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and mixed media. Students explore and apply the elements of art and principals of design, and develop appropriate skills. Students are encouraged to develop their creative abilities and knowledge of the visual arts through practical studies in the art studio and through research, with reference to art history and contemporary art.

**Department Standards**

Students will be encouraged to develop an involvement in and appreciation of the Visual Arts.

Students will utilize and explore a variety of media and techniques.

Students will develop interpretive skills through exposure to and active investigation of social, historical and philosophical contexts.

Students will develop an understanding of Visual Arts from a local, national and international perspective.

**Benchmarks**:

Students will clearly and expressively explore visual ideas and problems through experimentation.

Students will work imaginatively and capably with the given media and methods.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of technical skill, and the principles and elements of design that have been discussed.

Students are able to use appropriate language to discuss subject content and formal elements of their work.

Students are able to recognize and discuss the work of other artists and how it relates to their own work.

**Performance Indicators**

Students will be able to use various media to explore different mark-making techniques.

Students will be able to use a variety of mark-making to explore and express a given subject.

Students will show an awareness of positive and negative shapes and an understanding of other elements of composition, such as balance, symmetry and proportion.

Students will be able to discuss their own and others' work during group discussions and one-on-one exchanges.

Students will be able to discuss the work of other artists in relation to their own.

Students will be able to use value and texture to create the illusion of three-dimensional space within a two-dimensional picture plane.

Students will be able to use line and tone to express form and value.

Students will be able to identify positive and negative space within a composition.

Students will be able to use different media to explore a variety of textures.

Students will be able to mix different tones and hues of colour using various media such as acrylic paint and pastel.

Students will understand the relationships between colours and the visual effects they can produce.

Students will explore the symbolic and expressive ways that colour can be used in other artists' work and their own.

Students will be able to achieve naturalistic colour from observational studies.

Students will be able to recognize types of space in two-dimensions: shallow and deep; decorative; plastic.

Students will be able to create the illusion of three-dimensions within their work using different methods, such as scale, perspective and overlapping.

Students will be able to recognize different types of spatial indicators in their own and other artists' work.

Students will be able to recognize different types of spatial techniques, including multiple viewpoints and linear and aerial perspective.

Students will be able to construct three-dimensional forms using various materials.

Students will be able to create three-dimensional work that shows an understanding of volume, space and shape. They will be able to use the sculpture techniques of modelling, addition and/or subtraction.

Students will also have an understanding of the elements of colour, balance, proportion, movement and scale.

Students will be able to create a variety of real textures within three-dimensional work.

Students will have some understanding of the historical development of sculpture.

**Assessments**

Assignments using drawing, painting, print-making, collage, three-dimensional construction.

Observational studies of various subjects, such as landscape, architecture, the figure, still-life objects, photographs.

Studies after other artists.

Discussions of artists and class work.

Individual critiques and group critiques.

Portfolio review.

Investigation Workbook review.

Rubric application: two selected assignments per quarter to be critiqued and graded.

Final Project at the end of each semester.

**Core Topics**

Line

Shape

Form

Value

Texture

Colour

Space

Form in three-dimensions

**Specific Content**

Line: drawing from observation; descriptive lines; contour lines; expressive use of lines, implied lines

Shape: positive and negative shape; forms in two-dimensions; organic and geometric form; symmetry and asymmetry; measuring and proportion

Form: composition; balance; positive and negative space within the picture plane; rhythm; repetition

Value: monochromatic drawing and painting; chiaroscuro studies; value scale; expressive qualities of value; using value to create the illusion of space

Texture: texture in the environment; the illusion of texture in art; creating the illusion of texture and real texture using different media; real texture

Color: color theory; color contrasts; color interaction; expressive use of colour; naturalistic use of colour; color symbolism and expression.

Space: the illusion of space in two-dimensions; positive and negative space; space and the picture plane; space in the environment; space in sculpture; space in architecture; space in other three-dimensional art.

**Resources**

Tasis libraries, Internet research, and CD-Rom art collections; reproductions of artworks; lectures and visual presentations; Tasis Visiting Artist Program; Fleming Gallery and Tasis Exhibition Program.