**Curriculum**

**Advanced Placement Art History**

**Course Overview**

The Advanced Placement Art History course is designed to introduce students to the understanding and enjoyment of works of art. Emphasis is placed on two aspects of the discipline. First, students learn about the contextual history of the work, that is economics, politics and social issues of the time. Our study also focuses on the creative process itself: that is, recognizing and describing different styles of architecture, painting and sculpture and learning techniques of artistic creation.

**Department Standards**

Develop an awareness of past and present cultures.

Develop an inter-curricular view of the world around them and of themselves.

Develop an appreciation of the arts.

Gain critical thinking skills.

Express ideas clearly in writing and orally.

Develop a deepening appreciation of cultural values.

**Benchmarks**:

Students in AP Art History develop knowledge and consistent with the Standards for the Humanities department and the College Board requirements:

* Acquire a knowledge of history of art by identifying historical, social and cultural influences and recurrent themes and traditions which have generated artistic accomplishment throughout the ages and which continue to shape contemporary art
* Focus on the ideas embedded in a single work of art
* Cover ten content areas in syllabus, with particular notice to the set 250 works approved by the College Board
* Recognize specific styles of art and understand the techniques used to create architecture, sculpture and paintings
* Demonstrate visual literacy and ability to describe their observations with accurate and appropriate art historical vocabulary, both written and oral
* Develop critical thinking skills through observation, description, analysis, interpret and judging works of art
* Become aware of influence the arts on society in general, both in the past and the present
* Experience original art works and other sources of information about art through visits to museum, galleries, churches and archaeological sites in Europe

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**Performance Indicators**

Students will be able to discuss influence of social, economic, political and religious life on the architecture, sculpture, painting and mosaic from Prehistoric Europe, Mesopotamian and Egyptian cultures, Aegean, Greek, Etruscan and Roman periods.

Students will be able to analysis works of art stylistically relating the color, line, shapes, composition, texture, mass and volume, perspective, light /dark elements of different works in both oral and written assignments

Students will be able to describe both verbally and in written essays the techniques, materials and structural principles of Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Greek, Etruscan and Roman art

Students will learn to research in the school library, in museums, and on the internet to write major research papers.

Students will develop understanding of art works in their original sites

Students will present oral reports on site in the British Museum and Paris

AP Curriculum Skillset:

* Students will begin to identify themes underlying art of different cultures and time periods: war, landscape, portraits, narrative, sacred buildings and objects
* Students will be able to distinguish Early Christian and Byzantine stylistic and artistic influences
* Students will be able to explain the basic beliefs of Christianity, Muslim, Islam and Buddhism -Students will understand the ways of worshipping and functions of styles of the sacred spaces of the above religions -Students will understand the iconography used in for the sacred objects of these religions
* Students understand and can diagram the principles of architecture of Byzantine, Romanesque and Gothic churches
* Students can explain the techniques of mosaic, fresco, tempera, and stained glass
* Students can perform well on multiple-choice and essay questions in AP-style comparing different art works
* Students can describe the relation between social and economic development to patronage of art -Students can distinguish stylistic differences between buildings, paintings and sculpture and describe these in writing.
* Students will be able to recognize influences from Classical culture in Renaissance and Baroque art
* Students will be able to describe the impact of economic, political religious and social changes on art works
* Students will be able to be describe and compare art works stylistically
* Students will be able to lecture to the class while in the National Gallery about their chosen painting
* Students are able to distinguish artistic styles of different artists
* Students can describe the principles behind the major revolutionary changes in art styles of the 19th and 20th centuries
* Students can speak confidently about their artist in the museum in Paris and in the Tate Gallery in London
* Students can complete the practice and actual AP exam to a good standard

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**Assessments**

Summer Assignment:

* Museum Study Paper

Homework:

* Nightly reading assignments
* Weekly short writing assignments
  + Comparison essays relating paintings, sculptures and architectural focussing on stylistic influences, technique or iconography, particularly between Asian and Western examples
  + Homework essays comparing artistic styles, technical innovations, issues of patronage, gender issues, impact of political, economic and religious events

Quizzes:

* Periodic identification and short answer quizzes

Tests:

* AP-style tests on all major units (every 2-3 weeks)

Research Essays:

* Major 1000-word research paper related to study week in Greece
* Research paper on non-Western art object in the British Museum
  + Oral presentation to the class on research topic during visit to the British Museum
* Short paper on Early Renaissance art as seen through the work of one artist
* 2000-word term paper on an artist and work seen during class trip to Paris in April
  + Oral presentation to the class on research topic during visit to Paris

Exams:

* Mid-year exam in AP-format on Units 1-10
* Mock AP Exam in May

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**Core Topics**

Introduction to principles of art history

Unit 1: Prehistoric art, Mesopotamian art, Egyptian art

Unit 2: Aegean and Greek art

Unit 3: Etruscan and Roman art

Unit 5: Early Christian and Byzantine Art

Unit 6: Islamic Art

Unit 7: Asian Art: India, China and Japan

Unit 8: Early Medieval Art: 500-1000 CE

Unit 9: High Medieval Art:1000-1300 CE

Unit 10: Proto Renaissance in Italy 1250-1400

Unit 11: Renaissance in Italy and the North

Unit 12: Mannerism and the Baroque in Italy, Spain, Flanders , Holland, France

and England

Unit 13: Enlightenment in France and England: Rococo and Neo-Classicism

Unit 14: 19th century European and American art

Unit 15: African Art

Unit 16: Mesoamerican and Native American art

Unit 17: 20th century European and American art

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**Specific Content**

Students learn to identify historical social, economic and cultural influences on art from 25,000 BCE to 500 CE.

Students will become aware of topical themes underlying art of all ages and begin to see comparison and differences between cultures, for, example, sacred spaces in Egyptian Mesopotamian, Greek and Roman culture or images war and violence in Mesopotamian and Roman culture, etc.

Students learn the vocabulary needed to write analytical essays comparing styles of different artists and time periods.

Students learn about the materials, techniques and conservation problems of Classical and pre-Classical art: Cire perdue, Black and red figure vases, structural principles of post and lintel and the arch, changes in use of materials from brick to marble to concrete, techniques of fresco and mosaic

Students learn to distinguish different periods of Greek sculpture and its influence on later cultures

Students learn the architectural terms needed to describe Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Green and Roman buildings

Students will travel to Rome and Florence to visit museums and sites related to our study of Ancient and Renaissance Italian art

Students learn the basic principles of Christianity and the techniques of Byzantine mosaics, manuscript illumination and architecture of Hagia Sophia

Students learn the basic tenets and iconography of the Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist faiths

Students learn how the art reflects the religious beliefs in content and in use of sacred spaces and sacred objects

Students distinguish between styles of Indian, Chinese and Japanese Buddhas and Chinese and Japanese painting styles

Students learn about the revival of feudal society and Roman culture in Carolingian and Ottonian Europe through study of architecture and manuscripts.

Students learn about the rise of monasteries and age of pilgrimages: cathedral architectural styles in different countries , architectural sculpture and manuscript illumination and stained glass windows

Students learn about the philosophies of St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Francis of Assisi in relation to their impact on art styles.

Students learn about the increasing importance of Italy in the 1300's as an economic and artistic center for Europe

Students learn the techniques and terminology of tempera and fresco painting

Students learn the basic principles of Renaissance humanism and revival of Greco-Roman styles and its impact on art and architecture

Students learn the impact of artistic patronage in Florence, Rome and Venice

Students learn to compare and contrast works of similar subject by different artists

Students learn about the rise of cities in Northern Europe and Italy and its impact on architecture, painting and sculpture

Students learn to make compostitional diagrams of paintings

Students learn to recognize the techniques of oil painting, printmaking, perspective, foreshortening and trompe l'oeil

Students learn the impact of the Protestant Reformation and Catholic Counter-Reformation on art in Europe

Students learn about the role of women painters in Italy, Spain, Flanders, Holland and France

Students learn about scientific innovations and its appearance in art and the importance of economics (banking) and trading links in Flanders, Holland and England

Students learn to recognize stylistic differences between Renaissance, Mannerist, Baroque, Rococo and Neo-Classical painting styles

Students learn to describe architectural features and principles of building in the above styles

Students learn principles of enlightenment philosophers and their importance in the political and industrial revolutions of the 18th century

Students learn the art work from the age of the 'avant-garde' in painting, sculpture and architecture: Romanticism, Realism, Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, Symbolism, Fauvism, Expressionism, Cubism, Futurism, Dadaism, Constructivism, Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Environmental Art, Feminist art, Post- Modernism.

Students learn about new principles of construction and new materials ain late 19th and 20th century architecture -Students learn about the impact of economic and social changes and the rise of the middle classes on subject matter and styles in art

Students learn about the impact of photography on painting

Students learn about the influence of African art on early 20th century European art

Students learn the styles of Olmec, Mayan and Aztec art of the Americas

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**Resources**

Kleiner, Fred S., Christin J. Mamiya and Richard G. Tansey: *Gardners Art through the Ages*, 14th edition (International) London UK, Wadsworth

PowerPoint slide presentations used in class

Museums and sites of architectural importance in Florence and Rome

Availability of Slides and class presentations on LMS

Charts and diagrams

DVD collection on art and techniques of art

School library for research for talks and papers in the British Museum

National Gallery Website and catalogues from their collection

Websites and catalogues for Paris museums and galleries

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