

Course Description:

In this AP elective, college bound students will explore major forms of artistic expression including architecture, sculpture, painting and other media from across a variety of cultures. Students will examine the creative process and artists' presence of mind in relationship to their social and geographical environments. Student reading comprehension and analytical skills will be assessed through inquiry-based classroom discussions, museum visits, student presentations, writing activities, and traditional exams. Through their studies, students will develop a familiarity with the purpose and function of art as they develop their ability to articulate visual and art historical concepts in verbal and written form. A primary goal of the course is to prepare students for the AP Art History Exam, which occurs in May of each year. Students who take the exam and do well may receive college credit.

AP Big Idea 1: Artists manipulate materials and ideas to create an aesthetic object, act, or event.

Essential Question: What is art and how is it made?

- Learning Objective 1.1: Students differentiate the components of form, function, content, and/or context of a work of art.
- Learning Objective 1.2: Students explain how artistic decisions about art making shape a work of art.
- Learning Objective 1.3: Students describe how context influences artistic decisions about creating a work of art.
- Learning Objective 1.4: Students analyze form, function, content, and/or context to infer or explain the possible intentions for creating a work of art.

AP Big Idea 2: *Art making is shaped by tradition and change.*

Essential Question: Why and how does art change?

- Learning Objective 2.1: Students describe features of tradition and/or change in a single work of art or in a group of related works.
- Learning Objective 2.2: Students explain how and why specific traditions and/or changes are demonstrated in a single work or group of related works.
- Learning Objective 2.3: Students analyze the influence of a single work of art or group of related works on other artistic production

AP Big Idea 3: *Interpretations of art are variable.*

Essential Question: How do we describe our thinking about art?

- Learning Objective 3.1: Students identify a work of art.
- Learning Objective 3.2: Students analyze how formal qualities and/or content of a work of art elicit(s) a response.
- Learning Objective 3.3: Students analyze how contextual variables lead to different interpretations of a work of art.
- Learning Objective 3.4: Students justify attribution of an unknown work of art.
- Learning Objective 3.5: Students analyze relationships between works of art based on their similarities and differences.

Additional Focus Areas:

- How we understand the presence of mind in relationship to the artist's social environment. Connecting the product to the "why?" behind its creation.
- How art is relatable across different time periods and geographic regions.
- Are artists creating art for utilitarian purposes based on geographical and survival needs or are they creating art for social/emotional purposes?

Grade Level: Grades 11 - 12
Modules (Units):

AP Suggested Timeline
32 Weeks

Content Area 1: Global Prehistory, 30,000 – 500 B.C.E	11 works (4%) 1.5 week
Content Area 2: Ancient Mediterranean, 3500 B.C.E – 300 C.E	36 works (15%) 4.5 weeks
Content Area 8: South, East, and Southeast Asia, 300 B.C.E. – 1980 C.E	21 works (8%) 2.5 weeks
Content Area 3: Early Europe and Colonial Americas, 200 – 1750 C.E	51 works (20%) 6 weeks
Content Area 7: West and Central Asia, 500 B.C.E. – 1980 C.E	11 works (4%) 1.5 week
Content Area 4: Later Europe and Americas, 1750 – 1980 C.E	54 works (22%) 7 weeks
Content Area 5: Indigenous Americas, 1000 B.C.E. – 1980 C.E	14 works (6%) 2 weeks
Content Area 6: Africa, 1100 – 1980 C.E	14 works (6%) 2 weeks
Content Area 9: The Pacific, 700 – 1980 C.E	11 works (4%) 1.5 week
Content Area 10: Global Contemporary, 1980 C.E. to Present	27 works (11%) 3.5 weeks

Learning Activities/Modes of Formative and Summative Assessment:

The course format for AP Art History consists of daily (inquiry-based) discussions based on readings and assignments. Students create their own online study guides and journals of artworks for each content area as to prepare for daily discussions. Students will express their newly acquired knowledge through presentations, written analyses, and traditional exams. Daily activities such as guided readings, visual analyses, quick writes, and think-pair-shares will help students develop the vocabulary and analytical skills needed to be successful on the AP Exam at the end of the year.

Primary Instructional Resources:

- Primary Textbook: *Gardner's Art Through The Ages, A Global History.*
- Various online resources:
 - Khan Academy
 - BBC/PBS/Nat Geo video resources
- Online Learning Management Systems:
 - Moodle
 - Google Classroom