

Visual Art Level 1



Mrs. Zeller- Vancouver School of Arts and Academics RM 201- 360-313-4600 - Crystal.zeller@vansd.org

Course Description: VA Level 1 is a year long studio art course in which artists will continue developing observational drawing skills, knowledge of color theory applied to a variety of media, and also 3D design using hand building clay techniques, throwing on the potters wheel, and a variety of other media. All of the projects are intended for artists to learn, practice, and refine technical skill, creativity, and craftsmanship. This course will give students the tools and building blocks they need to excel along the visual arts path, such as self reflection and critique skills, studio practice and responsibility, and creative problem solving. Students will have opportunities to develop an individual creative voice and learn to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the work of self and others.

Course Goals: Learn how to think and act like an artist, discover your own creative voice and creative problem solving skills through engaging with and practicing the 8 Artist Habits of Mind:

OBSERVE:

Observer your surroundings and develop the right side of your brain through developing an observational drawing practice.

Become more deeply aware of Visual culture and communication.

Observe art work that is inspiring and interesting. Collect visual research as a source of inspiration.

STRETCH AND EXPLORE:

Students will gain confidence with experimenting and trying many new techniques, processes, and applying design principles in a No Fear zone. Students will explore a variety of career options in the Visual Arts

ENVISION:

Develop skill in brainstorming and drafting multiple solutions to a visual problem, thinking creatively and developing original solutions

ENGAGE AND PERSIST:

Students will learn engaged artistic behavior- and demonstrate focus and curiosity.

Students will demonstrate the ability to persist, problem solve, and reflect when a task, technique, or project becomes difficult.

EXPRESS:

Select and use visual, expressive, and functional concepts with content to communicate intended meaning in your artworks

Use subjects, themes, and symbols that demonstrate knowledge of contexts, values, and aesthetics to communicate intended meaning

DEVELOP CRAFT

Learn how to use a variety of media, and design principles to create well made, intentional work

Analyze what makes media tools effective and purposeful in communicating ideas; and reflect upon the effectiveness of your own choices

Intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of concepts, techniques, and processes to enhance communication of your experiences and ideas

REFLECT:

Students will develop a reflective practice for assessing their own work and the work of others, as well as reflecting on process, interests, and Key artists from Art History and Contemporary Artists

Understand and use art elements and principles of design and analyze what makes them effective or not effective in the communication of ideas in own work and work of peers, and Artists throughout History and across cultures and disciplines

UNDERSTAND THE ART WORLD:

Learn the language of visual communication and apply it to develop a deeper understanding of Art History, why and how people create? And also a deeper understanding of why and how you create? Learn about careers in the Visual Arts and the broader Art Community.

Major Course Assignments and Projects:

Visual Journal: Hand made with guest artist Katt Sarro

- Students will use their visual journal daily for in class warm-ups, brain-storming, thumbnail sketches, and collecting visual research to support the creative work of our class projects. Students will complete and collect Stretch and Explore as well as Develop Craft practice pieces in their visual journals
- Students will complete weekly sketchbook homework to refine their craft of observational drawing and applying design and expressive concepts creatively

Studio Projects/assessments: Throughout each semester Both 2D and 3D projects will offer a range of technique, media, processes and exposure to Art History in the following media:

Drawing: Working from observation and imagination students will develop a foundation using a variety of materials and processes including but not limited to:

Contour Line, Value/shading for depth, Still Life, portraiture, figure drawing, perspective

Printmaking: Learn the basics of both printing and screen presses: Linoleum cut, screen printing

Painting: Color Wheel, color theory and color mixing- Watercolor, Acrylic, and digital collage

Clay: Slab construction, Coil Construction, and Pottery Wheel

Sculpture: Plaster bandage, wire, cardboard

Writing/Research:

Students will engage in a variety of written assignments including: 1 page Artist Biographies connected to areas of interest in the visual, Artist comparisons, and critical responses to visual experiences, films, gallery/ museum trips etc.

Portfolio

- Students will learn how to document, edit, save and organize images of their work into a digital portfolio
- Students will select at least 1 best work per quarter and write a reflection detailing their reasoning, and describing what was learned and gained from the project.

Critiques:

- All students are expected to participate thoughtfully and completely in peer, small group, and class discussions and critiques.

Assessment and Evaluation:

- All Visual Art assessment will use **Standards Based Grading:** The establishment of a set of specific and focused standards by which each student will be held accountable. A standard defines **what a student should know and be able to do at the completion of a course. VA standards are aligned with State and National Standards for the Visual Arts.**

4 point Grading Scale: (All project assessments will incorporate student self -assessment and reflection)

4= **Distinguished:** Exceeds expectations for the standard

3= **Proficient:** Meets the expectations for the standard

2= **Basic:** Approaching meeting expectations for the standard

1= **Unsatisfactory:** Failed to meet expectations for the standard

Gradebook percentages: when the number on the 4 point scale is entered it will equal these percentages:

3.7-4.0 = A	92.51-100.00%	2.7-3.0 = B-	62.51-70.00%	1.3-1.8 = D+	32.51-40.00%
3.5-3.7 = A-	85.91-92.50%	2.3-2.7 = C+	55.01-62.50%	1.0-1.3 = D	25.00-32.50%
3.3-3.5 = B+	77.51-85.90%	2.0-2.3 = C	47.51-55.00%	0.1-0.9 = F	0.00-24.99%*
3.0-3.3 = B	70.01-77.50%	1.8-2.0 = C-	40.01-47.50%	* <u>Students will also earn a failing report card grade if ANY Incomplete marks remain by the Last Chance Deadline.</u>	

Understanding the Art World: Review the syllabus and the contract below with your parents online with your parents- sign and return (just the signature section!) by Monday September 8th – This will be your first ‘Professionalism’ Standard grade.

Professionalism/Personal Engagement Contract:

I agree to PRACTICE AT BEING AN ARTIST AND help to create A SAFE, CREATIVE SPACE by:

- a. **Demonstrating focused artistic behavior-** come in **ready to work**, engage in demo’s or art history/aesthetics discussions. When working, 100% of your focus/energy should be on your work, not unrelated casual talk. Finished early? Or need a break from current project? Then start the next or work in your Visual Journal. At no point should you be ‘bored’ or using your own device (phone) inappropriately.
- b. **Practicing professional studio care and maintenance and respect for all supplies, materials, and equipment.** Maintain a personal and shared studio space that is cleanly and well maintained- This is not your personal Studio! Clean up after yourself!!!!
 - a. Make it a habit to clean and put away your own tools properly and ask if you don’t know how to care for a particular material or where it goes.
 - b. Finished early? Help your neighbor
 - c. Always participate in your assigned clean up job rotation- Take pride in your contributions!
- c. **Always respect others work and space as well as your own**
 - a. Always respect your own and others creative work and process. Do not touch anyone’s work or personal supplies. EVER. Unless invited to by the artist.
 - b. Always respect each other’s personal and creative space- physical and auidial (Learn sensitivity of sharing your feedback at the proper time, always share thoughts respectfully and artistically (use the craft of critique we develop and practice in class)

Be Prepared with necessary supplies daily:

- Set of 4 drawing pencils- H, HB, 2B, 6B
- An eraser- needed, or white/pink pearl
- Your handmade Visual Journal and VA Folder (to organize reflections, assessments, and hand outs!)

Contract violation consequences: Each quarter you will receive a grade for how well you met the Professionalism/Personal Engagement Standard. Also for repeat violations:

- 1) **Warning from Mrs. Zeller**
- 2) **Communication with parent/guardian**
- 3) **Lunch Detention during Mrs. Zeller’s Enrichment- Clean, Clean, Clean**
- 4) **Referral**

Tear or Cut along this line

I have read and understand the requirements and guidelines of this Visual Arts class. I know that **I am encouraged to ask questions about anything that I do not understand** or am confused about throughout the year.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN By Monday September 8th.

Student _____

Print

Sign

Date

Parent/Guardian _____

Print

Sign

Date

Parent/Guardian Contact information (The most convenient way I can contact you):

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Most convenient time of day to reach you: _____

I LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW YOU EVEN MORE AS A VISUAL ARTIST AND SUPPORTING YOUR GROWTH!!!