

# VA Explore

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**Course Description:** VA Explore 3D is a 1 semester exploratory studio art class. Students will be exposed to a variety of materials, techniques and artists that will prepare students to move forward within the Visual Arts. Through hands on projects, and enriching VA experiences students will gain understanding of a range of techniques, creative processes, and how to use art elements and design principles intentionally. A broad range of art historical connections and discoveries will be made throughout the semester.

**Instructional Philosophy:** This is a working studio class in which students are encouraged to engage and practice the artist habits of mind: Observe, Develop Craft, Envision, Express, Understand the Art World, Engage and Persist, Stretch and Explore, and Reflect. High quality work is expected and students will be given opportunities to redo work until it meets standards specified during instruction. Students will work individually and in groups to solve visual problems and create visual projects using a variety of materials. Students will be challenged to think critically, creatively, and artistically through out their creative process. Artists will practice and learn how to give thoughtful feed back about their own work as well as the work of their peers.

## Course Goals:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the elements and principles of design through the creation of a variety of 2 and 3 dimensional art works.
2. Demonstrate focused artistic behavior and solve visual problems using critical and creative thinking and using a variety of sources to collect visual research.
3. Students will demonstrate responsibility through taking care of materials and studio space.

## Major Course Assignments and Projects:

**Visual Journal:** Student artists will be required to keep their visual journal for in class warm-ups, note taking, thumbnail sketches, and collecting visual research. **Students need to be prepared with Sketchbooks daily to receive a 4 for professionalism standard.**

### **Projects:**

**Teacher directed technique and design explorations: Design to provide an explorative, discovery of a range of techniques, design concepts, ideas and approaches while making connections to other disciplines and artists**

Drawing- practicing drawing from observation and imagination using a range of techniques. Watercolor, Collage, Paper Sculpture, Clay hand-building: Pinch, Slab, Coil, Wire/paper mache.

**Student Directed project:** At the end of each quarter student artists will have an opportunity to research an artist, write a 1 page biography and then create an individual project of choice that connects personal interest and vision with a that of a well known artist or art movement.

### **Critiques/ peer feedback:**

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

## **Assessment and Evaluation:**

### **Standards Based Grading: 4 pt scale, Self Assessment, and Reflection.**

**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.

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%	<b>* <u>Students will also earn a failing report card grade if ANY Incomplete marks remain by the Last Chance Deadline.</u></b>	

**Gradebook percentages: when the number on the 4 point scale is entered it will equal the above percentages.**

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

**4= Advanced:** Exceeds expectations for the standard.

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

**2=Developing:** Approaching meeting, or meets some expectations for the standard.

**1=Emerging:** Does not meet the standard yet.

**Gradebook percentages: when the number on the 4 point scale is entered it will equal the above percentages.**

**90 % of the student's grade is from meeting a range of standards for the class.**

**10 % of the students grade is from professionalism standards.**

**We will be using the Artist Habit of Mind Rubric throughout the semester. Demonstrating proficiency in these habits throughout the process of creation will become just as important, if not more important than merely assessing final products. (opens up space for experimentation, risk-taking, and developing ideas/making authentic connections)**

## **Needed Materials:**

Sketchbook, pencils, eraser. You will need to come prepared every day with a spiral bound sketchbook. (Dollar store, Craft-warehouse, Fred-Meyer, or any art media supply store will have sketchbooks. Please see Mrs. Zeller if this will be an issue.

**Bring sketchbook starting next Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>!**

# Studio Habits of Mind Rubric

COMMON ASSESSMENT RUBRIC				
Studio Habit	4-Exemplary	3-Proficient	2-Developing	1-Beginning
<b>ENVISION</b>	Divergent thinking and/or anticipates and plans for next steps	Imagines more than two ideas for activity and/or plans for next steps	Imagines two ideas for activity and/or developing ability to plan for next steps	Imagines one idea for activity and/or beginning ability to plan for next steps
<b>STRETCH &amp; EXPLORE</b>	Innovates and invents new techniques, turns mistakes into opportunities and/or teaches peers new ways of working	Plays with new materials and techniques, considers options and/or exhibits flexible thinking	Developing willingness to play with new materials/techniques and options and/or developing flexible thinking	Resistance to new materials/techniques and options and/or beginning flexible thinking
<b>OBSERVE</b>	Close viewing of model, process, environment, other artworks and/or life experiences are evident	Observation of model, process, environment, other artworks and/or life experiences are evident	Occasional observation of model, process, environment, other artworks and/or life experiences are evident	No observation of model, process, environment, other artworks and/or life experiences are evident
<b>DEVELOP CRAFT</b>	New techniques are incorporated into artistic process, connections made to previous artwork, other artists and experiences, and/or distinct concern for materials, tools and artwork	New techniques are repeated in artwork, connections to other artwork and experiences, and/or takes responsibility for materials, tools and artwork are evident	New skills are developing, connections to other artwork and experiences, and/or caring for materials, tools and artwork with prompts	New skills are beginning, no connections to other artwork and experiences, and/or no caring for materials, tools and artwork
<b>EXPRESS</b>	Intentional use of technique to show emotion and/or personal meaning; awareness of viewers	Emotion and/or personal meaning are evident; developing awareness of viewers	Emotion and/or personal meaning are occasionally evident in artwork; beginning awareness of viewers	Emotion and/or personal meaning are rarely evident in artwork; no awareness of viewers
<b>ENGAGE &amp; PERSIST</b>	Passionate focus and/or positive growth mindset with innovative solutions and resourcefulness	Consistent focus on work and/or positive growth mindset through challenges	Inconsistent focus on work and/or shows resistance when work is challenging	Does not sustain focus on work for more than 5 minutes and/or refuses when work is challenging
<b>REFLECT</b>	High awareness and self-monitoring of artistic process and/or candid self-evaluation of completed work	Awareness of and self-questioning about artistic process and/or self-evaluation of completed work	Developing awareness of artistic process and/or biased self-evaluation of completed work	Beginning awareness of artistic process, no self-assessment and/or no self-evaluation of completed work
<b>UNDERSTAND ART WORLD</b>	Insightful observations about art domains (contemporary and historical art) and/or art communities through collaboration, exhibition, and museum visits	Responds to art domains (contemporary and historical art) and/or art communities through collaboration, exhibition, and museum visits	Developing response to art domains (contemporary and historical art) and/or art communities through collaboration, exhibition, and museum visits	Beginning response to art domains (contemporary and historical art) and/or art communities through collaboration, exhibition, and museum visits

## NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR VISUAL ART- MIDDLE SCHOOL

### 1: **Application of Skills and Techniques:** applying media, techniques, and processes:

- a. select media, techniques, and processes; analyze what makes them effective or not effective in communicating ideas; and reflect upon the effectiveness of their choices
- b. Intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of \*art media, techniques, and processes to enhance communication of their experiences and ideas

### 2: **Knowledge and Understanding of Design:** Using knowledge of structures (composition/design) and functions.

- a. Generalize about the effects of visual structures and functions and reflect upon these effects in their own work
- b. Employ organizational structures and analyze what makes them effective or not effective in the communication of ideas
- c. Select and use the qualities of structures and functions of art to improve communication of your ideas (Refine composition and design choices)

### 3: **Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas**

- a. Integrate visual, spatial, and temporal concepts with content to communicate intended meaning in your artworks
- b. Use subjects, themes, and symbols that demonstrate knowledge of contexts, values, and aesthetics that communicate intended meaning in artworks

### 4: **Knowledge and Understanding/Art World:** Understanding the visual arts in relation to history and cultures and making connections between visual arts and other disciplines.

- a. Know and compare the characteristics of artworks in various eras and cultures
- b. Describe and place a variety of art objects in historical and cultural contexts
- c. Analyze, describe, and demonstrate how factors of time and place (such as climate, resources, ideas, and technology) influence visual characteristics that give meaning and value to a work of art

### 5: **Reflection and Evaluation:** Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their own and others work

- a. compare multiple purposes for creating works of art
- b. analyze contemporary and historic meanings in specific artworks through cultural and aesthetic inquiry
- c. describe and compare a variety of individual responses to their own artworks and to artworks from various eras and cultures

### **Professionalism/Personal Engagement:** Professional Studio Practice and personal engagement.

- a. Demonstrate 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.  
Bring Visual Journal/sketchbook daily.
- b. Practice professional studio care and maintenance. Maintain a space that respects your work, others work, and the studio as a shared space. Clean up after yourself!!!!

**Studio 201 Supplies and Space Management Expectations:** This is a VSAA shared space and it is very important that supplies and spaces are maintained in a safe, organized, and cleanly fashion. It is expected that all Visual Art Students become stewards of the space and play an important role in knowing and caring for all space and supplies.

### **VA Classes Policies and Procedures:**

Respect yourself, Respect others, Respect the space and materials (create class group agreements)

Come prepared and ready to engage: Listen, learn, participate.

NO signing out the 1<sup>st</sup> or last 10 minutes of class

Ask for permission to leave- fill out sign out sheet and take the pass, and return the pass

NO Food in studio space. Music okay during focused studio work sessions at a quiet level.

Take Risks and Experiment- Document your work and keep your reflections!

To use specialty supplies- check out with Mrs. Zeller (your name will go up on the white board until you return borrowed supplies to Mrs. Zeller. (Ex: paint pen/sharpie etc.)

