

Art Grade 7

Contact Information:

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7th Grade Visual Arts Syllabus

Instructor: [Instructor Name]

School: [School Name]

Grade Level: 7th

Course Duration: [Insert duration, e.g., Semester/Year]

Course Overview:

This 7th-grade visual arts course will explore the foundations of art through various mediums including sculpture, painting, design, crafts, drawing, and art history. Students will develop technical skills, creative thinking, and an understanding of the Elements and Principles of Art while exploring their artistic voice. Students will also learn to analyze and critique artwork using art terminology and the National Visual Arts Standards.

Course Goals & Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Develop proficiency in multiple artistic techniques including sculpture, painting, design, crafts, and drawing.
 2. Demonstrate knowledge of the Elements of Art (line, shape, form, space, texture, value, and color) and Principles of Design (balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, pattern, rhythm, and unity).
 3. Explore historical and contemporary art movements and artists, identifying their techniques and contributions.
 4. Create original works of art through various media while expressing personal creativity and ideas.
 5. Critique and evaluate artwork based on formal and expressive criteria.
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National Visual Arts Standards

This course aligns with the National Core Arts Standards for Visual Arts:

- **Creating:** Students will engage in the process of artistic creation, including planning, making, and refining artworks.
- **Presenting:** Students will present and display their work through various means, reflecting on their own artistic process.
- **Responding:** Students will analyze, interpret, and critique artworks, incorporating understanding of artistic conventions.
- **Connecting:** Students will relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical contexts.

Units of Study

Unit 1: Sculpture

- **Duration:** 4 weeks
 - **Key Concepts:** Three-dimensional forms, carving, modeling, additive and subtractive techniques, texture, volume, space.
 - **Activities:**
 - Create a sculpture using clay or papier-mâché.
 - Explore additive (building up) and subtractive (removing material) sculpture techniques.
 - Study famous sculptors (e.g., Michelangelo, Henry Moore) and discuss their contributions.
 - Analyze the use of positive and negative space in sculptures.
 - **National Standard Focus:**
 - **Creating:** VA:Cr1.1.7
 - **Responding:** VA:Re7.1.7
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Unit 2: Painting

- **Duration:** 4 weeks
 - **Key Concepts:** Color theory, composition, brushwork, texture, layering, medium (watercolor, acrylic, etc.).
 - **Activities:**
 - Create a still-life or landscape painting using watercolors or acrylic paints.
 - Study the color wheel, primary, secondary, and tertiary colors, and how to mix them.
 - Experiment with different painting techniques (e.g., wet-on-wet, dry brushing).
 - Analyze famous painters (e.g., Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso) and discuss their stylistic choices.
 - **National Standard Focus:**
 - **Creating:** VA:Cr2.1.7
 - **Responding:** VA:Re7.2.7
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Unit 3: Design

- **Duration:** 4 weeks
- **Key Concepts:** Visual communication, typography, layout, pattern, symmetry, asymmetry.
- **Activities:**
 - Create a graphic design project (poster, book cover, etc.).
 - Explore principles of design such as balance, contrast, emphasis, and rhythm.
 - Learn the difference between functional design and art.
 - Study influential designers (e.g., Saul Bass, Paul Rand) and their use of design elements.
- **National Standard Focus:**
 - **Creating:** VA:Cr2.3.7
 - **Responding:** VA:Re7.1.7

Unit 4: Crafts

- **Duration:** 3 weeks
- **Key Concepts:** Texture, craftsmanship, functional art, cultural significance, mixed media.
- **Activities:**
 - Create a handmade functional item (e.g., pottery, woven basket, or sewn piece).
 - Explore traditional crafts from various cultures.
 - Discuss the importance of craft in historical and contemporary art.
- **National Standard Focus:**
 - **Creating:** VA:Cr3.1.7
 - **Responding:** VA:Re7.2.7

Unit 5: Drawing

- **Duration:** 4 weeks
- **Key Concepts:** Line, value, perspective, proportion, shading, observational drawing.
- **Activities:**
 - Complete a series of observational drawings (e.g., portraits, still-life).
 - Experiment with various drawing tools (pencil, charcoal, ink).
 - Study the works of famous draftspersons (e.g., Leonardo da Vinci, Albrecht Dürer).
 - Explore the techniques of shading, hatching, and cross-hatching.
- **National Standard Focus:**
 - **Creating:** VA:Cr2.2.7
 - **Responding:** VA:Re7.1.7

Unit 6: Art History

- **Duration:** Ongoing
- **Key Concepts:** Art movements, historical context, artists' techniques, cultural influences.
- **Activities:**
 - Study key historical art movements (Renaissance, Baroque, Impressionism, Modernism).
 - Explore the life and work of major artists (e.g., Rembrandt, Frida Kahlo, Jackson Pollock).
 - Discuss the influence of historical events on art and how art reflects culture.
- **National Standard Focus:**
 - **Connecting:** VA:Cn10.1.7
 - **Responding:** VA:Re7.1.7

Elements and Principles of Art

Throughout the course, students will integrate the following **Elements of Art** and **Principles of Design** into their projects:

Elements of Art:

- **Line:** The path of a moving point, used in drawing and painting.
- **Shape:** A 2D area defined by lines or other elements.
- **Form:** A 3D shape with depth, volume, and mass.
- **Space:** The area around, between, and within objects in an artwork.
- **Texture:** The surface quality that can be seen or felt.
- **Value:** The lightness or darkness of a color.
- **Color:** The result of light reflecting off a surface and being interpreted by the eye.

Principles of Design:

- **Balance:** The distribution of visual weight in an artwork.
 - **Contrast:** The difference between elements (light/dark, large/small) that creates visual interest.
 - **Emphasis:** The focal point or area of importance in an artwork.
 - **Movement:** The suggestion of motion within an artwork.
 - **Pattern:** The repetition of shapes, lines, or colors.
 - **Rhythm:** The repetition of elements that creates a sense of flow or movement.
 - **Unity:** The sense of harmony and wholeness in an artwork.
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Assessment & Grading

- **Participation & Effort:** 25%
 - **Project Completion:** 50%
 - **Art Critiques & Reflection:** 15%
 - **Final Project:** 10%
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Materials

- Sketchbooks
 - Various drawing and painting materials (pencils, charcoal, acrylic paint, watercolors, etc.)
 - Sculpture supplies (clay, wire, papier-mâché, etc.)
 - Crafting tools (glue, fabric, beads, etc.)
 - Art history readings and resources (provided by instructor)
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Classroom Expectations

- Respectful behavior towards peers, materials, and the instructor.
 - Active participation in all activities and critiques.
 - Proper use of materials and care of artwork.
 - Completion of assignments on time and with quality effort.
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This syllabus outlines the scope and sequence for the 7th-grade visual arts course, ensuring a comprehensive and engaging exploration of different art forms and fundamental principles.

