**Class Syllabus**

Drawing and Painting

Instructor: Elena Fernandez

School: Warren-Mott High School

**Course Description/Overview**

*Prerequisite****:*** Art Foundations

Welcome to Drawing and Painting! This class is designed for the serious art student; one who desires to gain new skills and insights as well as improving and refining already acquired art skills.

*Why Draw or Paint?*

* Drawing is the essential and vary basic part of art production
* Drawing and Painting develops hand and eye coordination, which in turn makes your drawings more accurate
* Drawing and Painting trains us to really ‘see’ and become better observers of the world around us
* Drawing can be the end product by itself or it can be the catalyst to further artwork
* Drawing and Painting helps us to transfer our ideas from our brains to a physical visual space we can change and manipulate
* Because there are no right or wrong answers, Drawing and Painting offers students opportunities to develop critical thinking skills

The **goal** of this class is for students to develop their critical thinking, observation and accuracy skills as they progress through a variety of classroom assignments such as still life drawings, perspective drawings, portraiture, figure drawing and painting. A wide range of drawing and painting media may be used such as graphite, charcoal, India ink, pastel, oil pastel, color pencils, water and acrylic. Student will continue to develop compositional understanding by applying the elements and principles of design to their sketches/drawings. A variety of artists will be studied as students discover how they are relevant in art history and to the individual student’s work.

Students may be broken into assignment groups depending on their skill set. Individual students will be tested at the beginning of the semester to determine their skill level.

**Course Content**

Each month there will be a presentation of specific concepts and ideas to help direct your development. Although quality is the ultimate goal, it is developed through taking intellectual and experimental risks, trying new ideas and not fearing individual project failure, but rather stretching your horizons, doing to learn, to expand your knowledge base.

**Guidelines for success**

* Leave your fear at the door! To develop as an artist, one must push themselves to experiment, try new techniques and be an artistic risk taker. Every artist, without exception makes art that they’re dissatisfied with. As long as you’ve learned in the process, you’re successful.
* Work hard and practice. It sounds simple but some seem to think that artists are born as opposed to developed. Acquiring art skills are like any other discipline, it takes practice, practice and more practice.
* Any student can be successful in this course. In order to be successful, student’s need to follow directions, show a sincere effort in participation and execution of class projects and turn in all assignment in on time.
* This course can be a very rewarding experience with the opportunity to acquire a deeper understanding of 2-D design and skill development. Your level of development is a direct result of the time and effort you invest in this course.

**Classroom Procedures**

* Arrive to class on time every time. School tardy policy: 1st Tardy= Warning, 2nd Tardy= Call home, 3rd Tardy = Detention, 4th Tardy= Referral.
* Cell phones are to be placed in your pocket or purse and out of sight during class time.
* Each day will begin with a sketchbook assignment. Students are to get their sketchbooks out and begin work upon entering class and before the tardy bell. You will have the first 10 minutes of the class period to work on sketchbook assignment. Sketchbook assignments will be posted on the white board.
* Daily assignments will be posted on the white board.
* Projects will be turned in at the deadline after class critique and students fill out self assessments.
* Generally, your work will be returned after grading. However, it is common practice to display some pieces in the hallway. You will be informed if your piece is selected.
* You are responsible for tracking your own grade status. I strongly encourage you to check your parent portal on a regular basis.
* Students are expected to remain in their seats until the bell has rung for class passing.

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**Classroom Rules**

Students in are expected to adhere to the following requirements:

* Be in the classroom ready to work when the tardy bell rings
* Come to class prepared with a pencil and eraser
* Be respectful to others, the classroom and art supplies
* Be respectful of the thoughts, opinions, works and belongings of others
* Maintain a studio conduct that will positively affect the learning environment of your classmates, your teacher and yourself.
* Physical movement within the classroom and use of classroom tools should reflect an awareness of safety and a sense of respect of the studio environment.
* No food or drink in class
* **You are responsible for cleaning up after yourself, including all materials used in the artistic process.**

**Consequences for Classroom Rule Violations**

1. Discussion with student regarding rule infraction or behavior issue
2. Telephone call to parent
3. Detention
4. Referral to house office assistant principal

**Productive Use of Time**

Students are to work on art projects from the beginning of the hour until the last five minutes of class and then clean up. Although open communication regarding the artistic process is encouraged, general chattiness is not an effective use of classroom time and thus, discouraged.

If students use their class time productively and do not have excessive absences or tardies, all assignments can be completed during the allotted class time. I am aware that as individuals, we all work at a different pace so if extra time is necessary, students should contact me prior to the due date to make arrangements for turning work in late.

**Absence Policy**

It will be your responsibility to find out from your instructor what work you missed while absent.

**Grading Policy**

I do not grade comparatively, so comparing your grade to another student’s is not valid. I grade according to what I believe your capabilities to be as well as improvement throughout the semester. I also take into consideration your work habits as well as your problem solving skills.

I will collect evidence of your learning in as many ways as I can. With the exception of the final exam, your grade will not be determined by quiz or test scores. Instead, I will evaluate you using these tools:

* observations
* daily work and long-term projects (both the process and the product)
* your own self-assessments
* project rubrics

I’m looking for and at:

* demonstrated comprehension of art skills and terms
* process (contribution to the classroom community, risk taking, idea development,
* creativity, and problem-solving)
* technical craftsmanship in resulting projects

Student work will consist of exercises and projects. Exercises are designed as an introduction and practice for a specific technique. Exercises are primarily done in class and are assessed for student understanding of concept. Projects are an in-depth investigation of a concept and technique. These are done in class and generally take a longer period of time.

Homework and daily/in class work may account for up to 25% of the final grade. The remaining 75% of the final grade is to be based on fair and equitable assessments that will permit students to demonstrate his/her mastery level of the course’s content including projects and quizzes.

If you are dissatisfied with your grade, you are welcome to rework it and turn it in again. If your work improves, I will change your grade.

Work is due promptly at the deadline. Because artists work more slowly I do not deduct points for work turned in within one week past the deadline. However, once the deadline has passed, the class will move on as a group to the next project/concept. You will lose 2 points per day for work not turned in past the one week cut off. You are responsible for making arrangements with your instructor if you need to use the classroom/supplies to work on past-due projects.

**Studio Points**: Students will earn weekly studio points based upon their studio involvement and conduct. Most weeks will present the opportunity students to earn 15 point (3 per day). Points are as follows:

***Attendance:*** 1 pt per day. Points will be subtracted for tardy arrival without a pass or an unexcused absence.

***Studio Conduct:*** 1 point per day. Students are expected to behave in a respectful manner towards myself, one another and the studio supplies and process.

***Effort:*** One point per day. The best way to become a better and skilled artist is through your own efforts. Heads down, napping and general lollygagging will result in points lost.

**Communication**

Communication between all involved parties is crucial to your success. I encourage an open dialogue between you, your parents and myself. There are a number of ways that I use to communicate to you and your parents. Please feel free to contact me for any reason regarding our class. You may contact me via email through the school website [Efernandez@wcskids.net](mailto:Efernandez@wcskids.net) or at **(586)574-3250 ext. 13131.** Email is the most efficient way to contact me since I am unable to receive phone calls during instructional time. I am also asking for parents to provide a day time phone number where I can reach you if a conversation regarding student performance, behavior or attendance is necessary.

**Lesson Plans**

You can find my weekly lesson plans posted at: <http://eafernandez.weebly.com>

**Area Art Supply Stores**

**Dick Blick Art Materials** ~ 28878 Woodward Ave, Royal Oak, MI 48067

**Michaels** ~ Oakland Plaza, 334 John R Rd, Troy, MI 48071

Drawing and Painting, Ms. Fernandez

I acknowledge that I have read and understand Drawing and Painting course syllabus. Due: Wednesday, January 30th for **10 pts.**

**Hour** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Student signature

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Parent name ~ printed

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Parent signature

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Parent day time phone number

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Parent email address

**Course Fee**

**All Drawing and Painting students are asked to pay a $10.00 supply fee**. The supply fee goes directly back into the classroom and is used to purchase paper and supplies to be used by your student. The fee will be paid directly to Ms. Fernandez by Monday, February, 4th. Thank You!!!