**Art I Syllabus**

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**Course Description:** **Introduction to Art** is an entry level visual arts class. It

is offered to any student who has an interest in visual art. Students will explore the

elements of art (line shape, color, value, texture and pattern) and principals of design

(balance, placement composition, proportion and overlapping) through the understanding

and application of various media, techniques and processes. Using hand-on activities,

students will challenge their potential to think creatively, solve problems and

communicate ideas, feelings and experiences in two and three dimensional works.

Students will research and study visual images from various cultures, historic time

periods and discuss the characteristics of these images as they pertain to their own works,

and the works of others.

**Instructional Objectives:** Students will be able to:

1. Recognize, and understand the basic elements of art and design

2. Understand and apply a variety of media, techniques and processes with skill,

confidence and sensitivity

3. Choose and evaluate a range of subject matter, symbols and ideas as they vary in

visual, spatial, temporal, and functional terms

4. Analyze and interpret art works in relation to form, context and purpose

5. Reflect upon and assess the characteristics and merits of his/her own work and the

works of others

6. Make connections between visual arts and other disciplines

7. Articulate the meaning and function visual arts will play in his/her personal life,

environment and community

**Required Readings:** Each student will select at least two teacher approved articles per

semester determined by the student’s historical and cultural interests and relationship to a

student’s on-going production work.

**Instructional Activities/Methods:**

Instructional activities and methods will vary according to the topics and media being

explored. Students will study the masters through slides, video, textbooks,

autobiographies, magazines, lectures, student oral reports and visits to museums and

galleries. Students will participate in hands-on study of the elements of visual art and

design through teacher lecture/demonstration, audio visual aids, and the application of

media. Field experiences to post high school programs, galleries, museums, artist studios, printing, production sites may be utilized to explore career options and assist the students in determining how visual art plays a role in their personal lives. Students will participate in teacher-guided group and self critique of production/presentational work. Students will work in tandem with teachers as mentors in preparation and completion of exhibitions.

**Great Path Academy Attributes:** Students will strive to embody the three GPA Attributes at all times:

1. **Respect**
2. **Responsibility**
3. **Safety**

**Classroom Expectations: Be present, on time, ready to learn.**

1. **Be professional.**
2. **Be open-minded.**
3. **Be your best.**

**Grading and Assessments:** Assessment is an ongoing process and will include the

use of multiple measures to determine what students have learned in the course.

Students’ grades will be determined, in whole, by their academic and artistic

performance on a variety of tasks and assignments.

**Grading policy:**

Art Journal/Sketchbook 20%

Article reviews 15%

In-class production work 45%

Active participation/Critique 20%

**Homework**

Homework is an important part of the learning process and is essential to

the development of independent learners. Students are expected to do homework on a

regular and consistent basis. Meaningful homework allows students to review important

points, deepen understanding, apply what they have learned, formulate new ideas, and

prepare for the next day.

• Keep a sketchbook of five drawings per week.

• Keep a journal or thoughts, ideas, processes, methods, and

observations that will influence the student’s production work.

• Attend a museum or gallery exhibit and give an oral report to

the class which demonstrates an understanding of key terms

(elements and principals of design, processes etc.)

**Exhibitions Planned:**

**MCC on Main:** May 2-June 12, Opening reception Friday, May 2 6-8pm

**Hartford Schools Art Exhibit:** to be announced

**Main Street Manchester:** to be announced

I look forward to working with you. New learning takes place when everybody is involved: Share your ideas and thoughts with the class. The best learning happens when we are all engaged in being open to explore new ideas and thoughts. I want you to work your hardest, challenge yourself to think about new ideas you have never thought about. Take risks and remember it takes practice, practice, and practice to get perfect. Have fun and belief in yourself!

Don’t ever hesitate to ask questions and ask for help. Most importantly, if you don’t understand something, ask!

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I have read the above class procedures and expectations and understand then fully.

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Student Name Student Signature

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Parent/Guardian Name Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date