

BEGINNING ART COURSE SYLLABUS

THE CENTER SCHOOL – MS. CULBERTSON

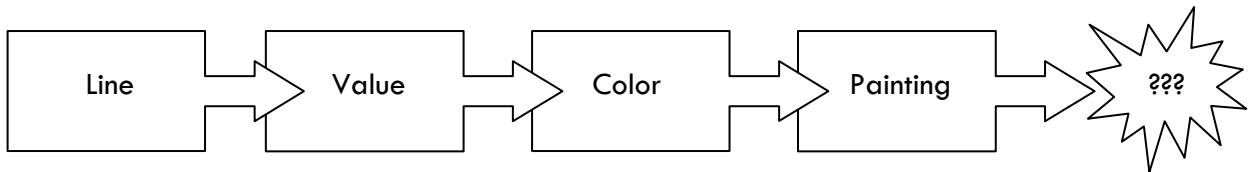
COURSE MOTTO: DRAW WHAT YOU SEE!

Course Description

This course has been developed based on Betty Edwards’s book The New Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain. In her book, she describes the “Five Basic Skills of Drawing” below:

- One: the perception of edges**
- Two: the perception of spaces**
- Three: the perception of relationships**
- Four: the perception of lights and shadows**
- Five: the perception of the whole, or gestalt**

Logical Progression of Skills



Stravinsky, Picasso

Beginning Art is intended to help students learn how to investigate the principles and elements of art and apply these principles to their own artwork. As such, the course includes observation and critique of master and modern works of art. In addition, students will be able to:

- Use art elements realistically and expressively
- Combine the art principles of emphasis, movement, balance, proportion, repetition, harmony, and variety to create unified compositions
- Reflect upon their artistic growth and learn to share this with others
- Be inspired by each other
- Explore other artists and their styles

Required Materials

- **9 x 12 inch spiral bound sketchbook (must purchase within 1 week)**
- **#2 pencil (if you don't have one, bring 25 cents to buy one in class)**
- **No mechanical pencils!**
- **Miscellaneous personal art supplies (can be stored in class)**
- **Portfolio to transport artwork (optional)**
- **USB Drive**



Self Portrait, Jacob Lawrence

Assignments

Grading is based on the specifications given in the form of a rubric, for each assignment. Each day during class, students must be working on the assignment for the week. If a student completes the assignment ahead of time, they may work on sketchbook assignments for the following week.

Grades are based on class participation, as well as work produced. Sitting idly in class, will result in points being deducted from the class participation grade. This is a hands-on class and attendance and daily participation are vital to your success. Points are based on arriving on time, working all period, and cleaning up.

If a weekly assignment is not finished in class during the time allotted, students are expected to finish the piece at home and turn it in by the due date. There will not be make-up time in class for assignments. If a student is absent, all work must be completed outside of class. If a student is absent on a due date, the student must turn in the work when they return.

Check www.wanafunzi.com for an art calendar and assignment due dates. PDF versions of all assignment sheets can be downloaded from this site.

Late Work

Late assignments will be accepted up to one week from the due date, but will only be eligible for 70% of credit earned. Sketchbook assignments will not be accepted late. One “Oh CRAP” late coupon will be issued for one day of lateness without penalty (restrictions apply – see coupon).



Self Portrait in a Cap, Rembrandt

Course Credit Requirements

To earn semester credit for this class, a student must complete the Growth Portfolio at the end of class.

Notification of Intent to Consider Attendance, Tardiness or Participation in Grading

The depth of coverage of material in this course requires active student engagement and participation. The failure to attend class prevents active student engagement. Because active student engagement is a necessary component of this class, attendance, tardiness, and class participation will be considered as a basis for grading in this course.

Attendance and participation will constitute a minimum of 10% of your grade for this course. Each student is given points for daily participation in the form of a participation log (see below).

Doing work for other classes or work not assigned to be done during class, sleeping, social talking, being tardy or leaving class early without an excuse are all circumstances that may result in a loss of your daily participation points. **Students will receive no participation points for days on which they have unexcused absences.**

Course Grading

80% Artwork and Supporting Assignments:

- These will include weekly assignments, artist's statements, critiques, and reflections.
- A number of sketchbook assignments will be given during the semester and students will be expected to complete a given number of pages of sketches in a certain time period for homework. Assignments must reflect obvious intent and not last minute "doodles" in order to receive credit.
- Reflections will show that the artist can justify and explain their artwork and reflect on the process.
- An Artist Report/Keepsake box will also be researched and created and presented to the class. This piece will be an informative work designed to represent an artist and their contributions to the art community.
- Beginning artists need to practice looking and being critical of other artists' work. It is through the critique process that artists can gain valuable insights about their work and the work of others.
- At the end of the semester, students will present a "Growth Portfolio" for their final assessment.

10% Self-Critique/Group Critique and Final Assessment:

10% Participation Log:

- Each week students will be evaluated on their studio participation and clean-up procedures. Because the class is largely based on studio work time, it is necessary that students be engaged in their artwork and be caretakers of the art room.

Art Room Rules

1. Treat everything in the room with respect. Supplies are limited and costly. Students who are careless in class and destroy school property will be held accountable for the cost of replacement.
2. Recycle materials when possible.
3. Bring a pencil everyday!
4. **Water** in a closed container is acceptable in the classroom; all other food and beverages must remain stowed in a backpack for consumption after class.
5. All electronics (i.e. cell phones, music devices, calculators, etc.) will be turned off and stowed in a backpack at the beginning of class. Use of music devices may be permitted during work times, but must remain stowed until the instructor permits their use.
6. Students will be given 2 bathroom tickets per quarter for bathroom use.
7. Students assigned to clean-up duties must assist during their scheduled clean-up days.

School Policies

Electronic Policies –

- **Cell phones** – Cell phones may be used before/after school, during the morning break and lunch time only. Cell phones that are used during class time will be given to the principal until the end of the school day. If a student repeatedly uses the cell phone during class time, the phone will be given to the principal and a parent will need to pick it up.
- **iPods/MP3 players** – these may be used before/after school, during the morning break and lunch time. They may be used with teacher permission during certain activities in class. Students may bring them to school at their own risk. Many are stolen throughout the year.
- **Gameboys/Handheld Computer Games** – These may be used before/after school, during the morning break and lunch time only. They are not to be used during class time.

Sunglasses Policy

- Sunglasses are to be removed when entering The Center School. They are not to be worn during class time.

Food/Water Policy

- Food and water use is left to teacher discretion. If teacher permits students bring food/water into the classroom, students are expected to clean up after themselves.
- Food/water should not be around computers in the lab and in the commons area.

Bathroom Policy

- Students are permitted to use the bathroom with teacher permission.
- Students are expected to sign out/in and to have a “bathroom bling.”
- Teachers may issue bathroom passes for each semester (I will issue two).

STUDENT/PARENT CONTACT INFO
BEGINNING ART - THE CENTER SCHOOL

Name _____ ID# _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Your email address: _____

Mother's (or Legal Guardian) Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Mother's Email: _____ Work Phone: _____

Father's (or Legal Guardian) Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Father's Email: _____ Work Phone: _____

I have read and understand the course grading procedures, rules, and expectations for Beginning Art at The Center School.

I understand that at minimum, I need a sketchbook and a pencil for this class. I will either purchase these items or I will contact Ms. Culbertson if financial limitations prevent me from doing so.

Printed Student Name Student Signature Date

Printed Parent Name Parent Signature Date

**TEAR OFF THIS SHEET AND TURN IN FOR CREDIT
KEEP THE REST OF THE SYLLABUS IN YOUR BINDER!**