Course Title: Intro to Visual Art (Foundations in Visual Art and Design)

Course #: 1701-1702

Course Description: This course provides introductory instruction in the visual arts. Students will gain basic knowledge and skills through assignments in design, drawing and painting, 3-D design and sculpture, including ceramics and digital art and filmmaking. In addition, students will develop a digital portfolio of their works, which will carry over to future courses. Students will also acquire a basic visual art vocabulary and an ability to utilize the language of art in discussions and through critiques. Artistic achievement of individuals, both historical and contemporary, and the work of different cultures will be analyzed and explored to serve as sources of inspiration for studio practices. This course prepares the student for all other visual art courses offered at Cathedral Catholic High School. Students will showcase their works during the CCHS art festival in May.

UC/CSU Approval: yes

Grade Level: 9-12

Estimated Homework Per Week: 1-3 hours

Prerequisite: None

Recommended Prerequisite Skills:

Course Grade Scale:

30% Preliminary Exercises/"Practice Work"
Practice work is all the work that you will do in class and at home to gain inspiration, do research, brainstorm ideas, practice techniques explore concepts and ideas, and write about your art-making process. Some practice work will also be small assignments that have a due date, but most will be ongoing work that is unique to each individual and will be completed in your sketchbook. Practice work that is turned in late can only earn a maximum of 50% credit

50% “Presentation Work”
Presentation work is all of the “major”, more time intensive projects that you will complete; the ones that you will present to the class during critiques. Artistic skills such as the understanding of elements of art, principles of design, color theory, composition, craftsmanship and in some assignments, the ability to communicate conceptually will be evaluated on presentation-level work. Meaning and originality in the work is highly respected. There is always a self-evaluation
component to each presentation-level project. In addition to receiving a grade for the actual work, you will also be graded on your ability to articulate your opinions and thoughts about your own and other’s work during the critique and in writing. Project Assignment Sheets will be available in Schoology, which include instructions. Due dates can be found in Schoology. For each project the student will complete a self-evaluation, peer critique, and reflection. Projects should be neatly labeled on the back top left corner with name, grade level, and period.

20% “Studio Performance”
Students will receive 20 points each grade update. You can keep these participation points by displaying the following:
- Professional behavior
- A desire to learn and improve which includes perseverance and effort in problem solving
- A commitment to working during all available studio time
- Showing respect of the equipment and resources
- Leaving your work-space neat and organized at the end of the period
- Respecting and encouraging cooperation in group projects and critiques

Major Assessments/Units/Topics:
Each Unit includes Presentation Projects (long term drawings and or paintings as well as written reflections on the work), Practice work (sketches, technical exercises and research preparation for large projects) and Studio Performance (participation in classroom studio art culture, discussions, and critiques).

Unit 1: Introduction to Elements and Principles of Design

Unit 2: Drawing & Painting
  Elements & Principles Design
  Mixed Media
  Linear Perspective
  Sketchbook Assignments
  Semester 1 Exam

Unit 3: 3D Design/ Sculpture
  Soap Relief Carving/ Marketing & Design
  Pattern & Repetition: Modular Sculpture
  Form & Texture: Mixed Media Sculpture

Unit 4: Digital Technology Arts
  Digital Self Portrait / Art History
  Stop-Motion Video
  Digital Portfolio
  Semester 2 Exam / Art Showcase