

AP Studio Art

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The AP Studio Art portfolios are designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art. AP Studio Art is not based on a written examination; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year.

The Elkton High School AP Program offers two portfolios: Drawing and 2-D Design. The portfolios share a basic, three-section structure, which requires the student to show a fundamental competence and range of understanding in visual concerns and methods. Each of the portfolios asks the student to demonstrate a depth of investigation and process of discovery through the **concentration** section (Section II). In the **breadth** section (Section III), the student is asked to demonstrate a serious grounding in visual principles and material techniques. The **quality** section (Section I) permits the student to select the works that best exhibit a synthesis of form, technique, and content.

Explanation of Sections of the Portfolio

Quality

The Quality section promotes the development of a sense of excellence in art. For this section, students submit five works that best demonstrate excellence. There are no preconceptions about what the work will look like -- it may have been created quickly or over a long period of time; it may be representational, abstract, stylized or it may show a combination of any of these characteristics. The five works chosen for the Quality section may come from the student's Concentration section and/or Breadth section, but they don't have to. They may be a group of related works, unrelated works, or a combination of related and unrelated works.

Concentration

The Concentration section shows the student's in-depth exploration of a particular concern. It is presented as 12 images, some of which may be details of works. The emphasis is on a coherent development of an idea through a body of work, in addition to the artistic success of the work.

Breadth

The Breadth section shows the range of experimentation and experience. It is presented as 12 images, each of which shows a different work. In addition to the quality of the work, it is scored on the degree to which it actually shows a variety of approaches to drawing or design.

The table below summarizes the section requirements for each of the three portfolios.

	Drawing	2-D Design	3-D Design
Section I: Quality	Five actual drawings; maximum size is 18" x 24"	Five actual works; maximum size is 18" x 24"	Five works; two images of each one are submitted
Section II: Concentration	12 images; some may be details	12 images; some may be details	12 images; some may be second views
Section III: Breadth	12 works; one image of each is submitted	12 works; one image of each is submitted	Eight works; two images of each are submitted

- Your portfolio may include work that you have done over a single year or longer, in class or on your own.
- If you submit work that makes use of photographs, published images, and/or other artists' works, you must show substantial and significant development beyond duplication. This may be demonstrated through manipulation of the formal qualities, design, and/or concept of the original work. It is unethical, constitutes plagiarism, and often violates copyright law to simply copy an image (even in another medium) that was made by someone else.
- Your portfolio will be evaluated by a minimum of three and a maximum of seven artist-educators. Each of the three sections is reviewed independently based on criteria for that section, and each carries equal weight.
- You must follow the detailed specifications listed in the current Course Description and the Studio Art poster. If the guidelines are not followed, your grade report will carry a message saying that your grade is based on an incomplete or otherwise irregular portfolio.
- The portfolios are grades on a scale from 1-5, representing poor, weak, moderate, strong or excellent.

Completing 24+ artworks in one school year requires a major commitment by the student. The AP Studio art student will produce approximately one artwork per week; this pace requires a **significant amount** of out of class time drawing and painting. The students will spend the first part of the year working on the breadth section of the portfolio. This section is teacher guided and the artworks will be created in a variety of mediums. Beginning in October, the students will begin to research ideas for the concentration section. The 12 artworks produced in this section will require the students to work from observation, research visual resources on the computer, and make their own visual resources using a digital camera. The students need to be **dedicated and self motivated** to complete 24 high quality art works during the school year.

Ongoing critiques will be conducted by the teacher with a significant amount of input from the other students in the class. Peer critique and review is an important part of the learning process in AP Art.

Examples of AP Art may be viewed by clicking links on this website:
http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_studioart.html

The AP Exam fee is \$85.00 with a \$15.00 per semester lab fee.

Any questions or concerns please contact me at:

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*I do not require a summer assignment, but suggest that keeping a sketchbook or journal of images and ideas will be invaluable during the course of the school year. The sketchbook/journal can contain magazine pictures, sketches, writing, images printed from the web, doodles, etc.