** Visual Art**

**2012-2013**

**Teacher:** Mr. M Patterson

**Course Grade:** Grade 8

**Rationale:** The visual arts include the traditional fine arts of drawing, painting, sculpting, printmaking, architecture, and photography, as well as crafts, industrial design, commercial art, performance art, and electronic arts. The visual arts curriculum is intended to help students develop their creativity, as well as the ability to communicate with other people through visual images. In learning to express themselves in visual ways, students will sharpen their powers of observation. In developing the ability to analyse and describe works of art from various historical periods and in different styles, they will also learn to understand and appreciate a wide variety of art works.

**Aim:** In Grade 8, students will begin to study the principles of design, and will produce works of art that demonstrate their proficiency in using a variety of tools, materials, and techniques. They will use their knowledge of the elements and principles of design in solving artistic problems and in analyzing works of art. In addition, students will demonstrate proficiency in some art forms. They will be expected to apply the knowledge and skills learned in their study of the arts as they analyse art works representing various styles and different historical periods.

**Skills:**

* *Knowledge and Understanding* – Knowledge of the content taught and the comprehension of its meaning and significance;
* *Thinking* – The use of critical and creative thinking skills and/or processes as follows:
  + *Planning Skills* – focusing, research, gathering information, organizing an inquiry;
  + *Processing Skills* – analyzing, evaluating, synthesizing;
  + *Critical/Creative Thinking Processes* – inquiry, problem solving, decision making, research.
* *Communication* – The conveying of meaning through various forms as follows:
  + *Oral* – story, role play, debate;
  + *Written* – reports, essays, letters;
  + *Visual* – model, map, chart, movement, video.
* *Application* – The use of knowledge and skills to make connections within and between various contexts.

**Course Overview:**

* Produce two- and three-dimensional works of art that communicate a variety of ideas (thoughts, feelings, experiences) for specific purposes and to specific audiences, using appropriate art forms;
* Identify the principles of design (emphasis, rhythm, balance, unity, variety, proportion), and use them in ways appropriate for this grade when producing and responding to works of art;
* Explain how artistic choices affect the viewer, and support their conclusions with evidence from the work;
* Use correctly vocabulary and art terminology associated with the specific expectations for this grade.

**Major Themes:**

1. Drawing and Painting
2. Sculpting and Industrial Design
3. Architecture and Photography

**Evaluations:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Assessment\*** | **Quantity\*** | **Grade** |
| 1 | Assignments | 9 assignments – 3 from each unit | 50% |
| 2 | Portfolio | Taken from various assignments at end of year | 20% |
| 3 | Reports | 3 reports – 1 from each unit | 20% |
| 4 | Participation | Graded on class participation and attendance | 10% |
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**Schedule:** A long-range plan has been posted on the wall in the classroom with a complete breakdown of every lesson throughout the school year. Located below is a breakdown of each theme throughout the months of the academic year.

*Sept*: Drawing

*Oct*: Painting

*Nov*: Electronic Art

*Dec*: Industrial Design

*Jan*: Sculpting

*Feb*: Sculpting

*Mar*: Photography

*Apr*: Architecture

*May*: Architecture

*Jun*: Portfolio

**Student Attendance:**

Student attendance is vital to the success of this course. Should a student miss a class due to any circumstance, all possible efforts will be made to ensure the material covered will be available to that student.

**Class Rules and Regulations**

Every member of this class is expected to come prepared and on time. Students must bring their textbook, notebook, all other materials that have been specified, and homework to each and every class.

Classroom participation is mandatory and will be evaluated through a variety of methods including: activities, classroom discussion, and homework. Students who struggle with classroom participation may substitute work to compensate for their lack of participation. Furthermore, every opinion and discussion will be received respectfully in class, although some opinions may be challenged.

Homework will be assigned throughout the course to ensure your personal growth. Readings and homework are assigned to stimulate interest in the subject being taught.

A homework or project, which is not completed on the due date, will be accepted late, but may receive a penalty. Exceptional circumstances will be considered and a deadline extension may be granted with no penalty.

Be prepared to work hard and think hard. I look forward to learning with you.

I have read the syllabus for ***Grade 8 Visual Art*** and am in agreement with the working methods, general philosophy, and topics that it proposes.

Student name Date

Student signature Parent signature