

2022 Summer Assignment for Advanced Placement 2D Studio Art: Photography

Summer assignments help *alleviate* the pressure during the school year of producing the many quality pieces needed for a successful portfolio. There are 3 assignment categories: Observational Studies, Sketchbook Pages & Museum/Gallery Visits. Observe, experiment, explore, and be zany creative! Please contact me this summer with any questions.
Contact: Mrs. Battle (margaret_battle@dpsnc.net)

**All of the following summer work is due on the second day back to school.
If it is not complete, a schedule change may be suggested.**

Have 1/2 completed by July 30th. & Have the rest completed by August 29th.

All images you created should be uploaded to a Google Drive Folder.

My suggestion would be to have all images categorized by the sections below and have rough drafts and a few of the stronger images you have edited in a separate folder.

**You should come to school ready to show these images & your workbook notes
ON THE FIRST DAY.**

**Please note: This is not just “summer busy work!” If you take this seriously, and
do a good job on these assignments, you will use them for your EXAM!
You will not have to stress as much during the school year.**

Helpful Hints:

1. Use a sketchbook to plan your artwork. PROVIDED FOR YOU. Make several thumbnail sketches, jot down notes, glue in reference images, and do color studies when needed. If you had Photo 3 with me last year, use the SAME sketchbook.
2. Visit the AP Central website to see sample portfolios and to become familiar with requirements.
<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-studio-art-2-d-design/portfolio>
3. Look at fine art! Visit the local art centers, galleries, art museums, and art festivals. Take your sketchbook with you, render the work as well as write your response to it. It is a good thing to jot down your thinking process as well as draw in it.
4. Read About Art! Read art magazines, such as The Artist's Magazine and International Artists. Easily found online.
5. Search the Internet for artists dealing with the same interests as you. Study their work, life history, and influences.
6. Take a camera with you as much as possible. OR JUST USE YOUR PHONE. You never know when an interesting subject matter or lighting will appear.
7. Spend time experimenting in Photoshop (Or Photopea). There is always something new and interesting to learn.
8. THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX...each of these themes/ideas/assignments can be considered in a literal way or in a creative way. Be creative in your thinking.

9. Most successful students shoot at least 40-50 shots for each assignment. This is a college level class. Snapshots are great for your scrapbook and memories; they are not acceptable for this class though. If you are taking your camera on vacation and plan to shoot some assignments, then make sure you are focused on a theme that goes beyond sunsets, beach scenes, etc.
10. For those of you who love nature and scenic shots, you will need to think outside the box and create images that cause the viewer to look at the scene in a new and different way. That is an extremely difficult task, even for seasoned artists, so I would recommend avoiding scenic/nature shots for these summer assignments.
11. Keep a little mini-journal of your progress. Write down where you were, what you were thinking, why you took the photo...this will help tremendously when you have to write your final commentary on the AP EXAM!!!!

Part 1 - Observational Studies

Complete at least THREE (3) of the following observational studies. For each study, you should concentrate on 1-2 ELEMENTS & PRINCIPLES.

After setting up the images, take at least 25 DIFFERENT photos to choose from, if not more. (Different means change your angle, rearrange items, move yourself, change settings, etc. Not just 25 of the same thing taken rapidly.)

Be sure you are considering everything in the image. Think about composition, background, elements and principles, lighting, and camera settings, etc.

1. A self-portrait that expresses a specific mood. Think about the effects of color and how it conveys the individual mood. You may use any style i.e. abstract or narrative. Research online to study various artists' self-portraits and their styles and techniques. Check out Cindy Sherman, and Vivian Maier, etc.
2. Still Life that consists of 3 or more reflective objects. Set up the objects on a table covered with cloth and place a lamp nearby to create dramatic lighting. Your goal is to create interesting shots of reflective objects.
3. A photographic series of unusual interiors, for example, looking inside of a closet, cabinet, refrigerator, inside a car, under the car's hood, etc. Think about how to take interesting, fine art photos (not snapshots) of something so ordinary.
4. Architecture: Do a photo shoot on location. Look for an interesting building in your neighborhood or in the community and focus on capturing your Elements of Art: Line, Space, Shape, Color, Value, Form, Texture as well as Geometry, Contrast, Juxtaposition, Emphasis, etc.
5. Consider going downtown Durham to observe and shoot from an urban perspective, finding stairwells, graffiti, empty buildings etc. Please don't go alone and be careful!
6. Create a self-portrait using your reflection in an unusual surface other than a mirror. This could be a metal toaster or blender, computer, body of water, sunglasses reflection etc.

Continued on the next page.....

Part 2 - Sketchbook

Journal/Sketchbook - Use your Journal/sketchbook as suggested in this information. Keep it with you and make it beautiful as well as useful. Having your ideas in one place with notes of camera settings, composition, etc. will help you develop as an artist. Also, please have 20 pages minimum completed when you return to school. These 20 pages can be writing, notes on images you took for your observational studies, collage material, research, sketches of interesting moments, random thoughts about your interests in photography. Anything you want and anything you find inspirational and/or related to your personal interest in photography.

Part 3 - Museum/Gallery Visits

In addition to your summer assignments students are required to complete two museum or Gallery visits. (A visit to a working artist's studio can be substituted for a gallery or museum visit) This is very important! Any student/artist spends a great deal of time looking at the work of others, staying current on what is out there.

****When selecting your place to visit, be sure to focus on photography and look for photography exhibitions or visit photography FINE ARTISTS (not wedding or portrait photographers)****

- Visit the North Carolina Museum of Art (it's free to stroll around the sculpture grounds)
- Visit the Nasher (on Duke Campus)
- Visit the Ackland Art Museum (at UNC-Chapel Hill)
- Visit the Durham Art Guild Gallery (Behind the Carolina Theater)
- Visit any number of local artist galleries or studios: Golden Belt, Horse & Buggy Press (on 9th Street), Cecy's Gallery (downtown), Liberty Arts, Durham Arts Council, Third Fridays in Durham. PS118 Gallery, 5 Points Gallery, The Peel (in Chapel Hill), 21C Hotel (downtown)
- OR visit museums ONLINE

Document what you see in your sketchbook:

1. The name of the specific photography exhibition you visited: Title of Exhibition, Artists Featured, Location and Idea behind the Exhibition (Read the intro or catalog)
2. Write down the names of artists (looking for mostly photographers or photography-based work) and work you like—make sketches of that work. Highlighting two works, which particularly struck you as powerful - think of what you took away as the meaning of the images, the lighting, elements & principles being used, etc. Be sure to write the titles of the work and the specific artist
3. Create multiple ideas for your own work using the work of others as inspiration. Sketch out these ideas in detail - write out color, lighting, mood, etc.