

Strawberry Crest High School

IB Visual Arts Summer Coursework:

Incoming Juniors



Higher Level (HL) & Standard Level (SL)

Instructor: Ms. Whittaker

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WELCOME!

Welcome to IB Visual Arts! I am so excited to meet you and work with you throughout your enrollment in this course. The first portion of Year 1 will be devoted to becoming acquainted with art vocabulary, artist, and mediums. From there, we will build on that knowledge and tackle all components required for your IBDP Submission: EA Process Portfolio 40%, EA Comparative Study 20%, IA Exhibition 40%.

As you enter your Junior year, we will hit the ground running. Your first day of class will be devoted to covering the course syllabus, becoming acquainted with me as your instructor, and answering questions about the course. On that day, you will submit the Summer Coursework I am assigning in this “Welcome” letter: 1 Piece of **Artwork** created by you and a full **Critique** of an artwork of your choosing.

MATERIALS

Please be prepared with the basic course materials outlined in this letter. As this is a course that requires a variety of materials, it is imperative to note that Strawberry Crest is limited on what we can provide, due to budgetary constraints. A large amount of art materials that you will desire to work with cannot be provided by the budget we have. This includes (but is not limited to) canvas, digital/photo printing, large linoleum blocks, most sculpture materials, etc. You will be responsible for securing these materials if you desire to work with them. The materials that I have in the studio will be allotted and dispersed by me. I will provide lists of locations to secure materials that you may desire to purchase independently.

Things you will need:

- 1) **USB Flash Drive (16GB or Higher)**
- 2) **8.5x11 Black (Hard Bound or Spiral) Sketchbook “VAJ”**
- 3) **1”or 2”: 3-ring binder**
- 4) **Writing utensils: Pens, Pencils, Markers, etc.**
- 5) **Tools for your medium (Clay Tools, Brushes, Camera, Ink Pens, etc.)-Purchase these items as needed.**
- 6.) **Personal Portable Portfolio (Optional...but SUPER helpful)**

SUMMER COURSE WORK

Before you enter Year 1 of this course, show me where you're at! I am assigning two tasks for you to tackle over the summer before you come to class.

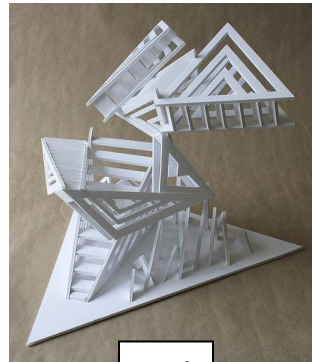
- 1.) **Create a quality piece of artwork in the medium of your choosing.** That may be a painting, a fully-finished drawing, a sculpture, a printed photograph, or whatever you feel best exemplifies your skills in the arts prior to entering this course. This artwork should be "Exhibition Quality". What does this mean? It should be an artwork that can be displayed on a wall or table and discussed. We will be critiquing together. Please do not submit drawings from a sketchbook for this assignment. While a sketchbook is crucial to your success in this course, a fully finished work of art should be larger, more refined, and ready for critique.



YES!



YES!



YES!



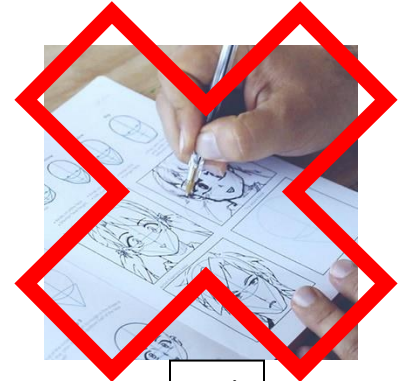
YES!



NO!



NO!



NO!

- 2.) **A critique of any artwork of your choosing, following the critique format that I am attaching to this letter.**

Show me how you talk about art! Some students entering this course are well acquainted with the terms and vocabulary of visual art. Some have never taken an art course before. Show me where you are at! Choose any artwork from a book, the internet, or a museum...HOWEVER...make sure that you can find enough information about this piece to identify the artist, year/time period created, and medium (materials used). Use the following format:

Artwork Title: _____

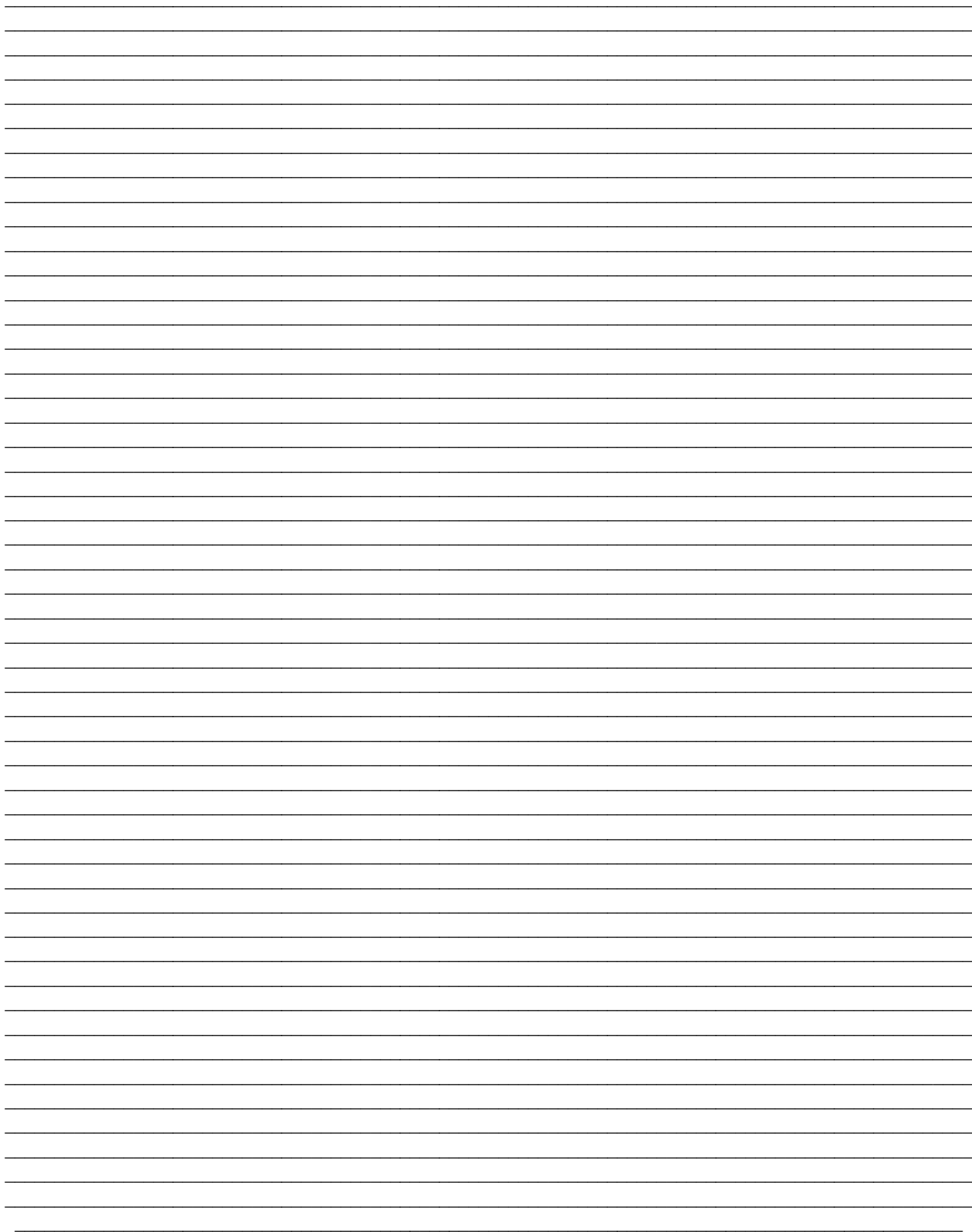
Medium: _____

Dimensions: _____

Year Created: _____



- [illegible]



Art Criticism Steps

1) Description

- What is the recognizable subject matter?
- What is the title and medium?
- What time period?
- What colors and shapes are seen?
- Artist's name?
- What elements of art are present and dominant?

2) Analysis

- What principles of design are emphasized in the artwork?
- Where are the highlights, midtones, and shades?
- What element(s) dominant in the work?
- What type of mood is presented?
- Where is the content positioned?
Foreground, middle of background

3) Interpretation

- What mood is associated with the artwork?
- What is the artist trying to say?
- What social meanings are present?
- What metaphor is present, if any?
- Why is the artwork composed this certain way?
- Can you defend your analysis of this artwork?

4) Judgment

- How do you like the artwork?
- How inventive and original is the artwork?
- How well organized and designed is the artwork?
- Does the artwork convey a strong message?
- Lasting Appeal?
- How strong is the craftsmanship?
- How does this artwork compare to another work of art?

Elements of Art and Principles of Design (Use this to help with your Analysis)

Elements of Art

- **Line:** A continuous mark made by a moving point; horizontal, vertical, diagonal, parallel.
- **Shape:** An enclosed area of space with 2-dimensions; width and height (W x H)
 - Geometric shapes: square, circle, triangle, rectangle, etc.
 - Organic shapes: found in nature; leaf, free-flowing.
- **Form:** An object with 3-dimensions: width, height, and depth (W x H x D).
 - Geometric forms: cubes, spheres, cones, pyramids.
 - Organic forms: found in nature; trees, clouds, humans.
- **Color:** Implies mood; has 3 properties: hue, value, intensity
- **Texture:** Way a surface feels to the touch (actual) or how it appears to feel through vision (implied)
- **Value:** Lightness and darkness of a color or value scale.
- **Space:** Actual 3-dimensional space or the illusion of space through overlapping or perspective.
 - Negative space: the area that surrounds or encloses the subject (sculpture).
 - Positive space: the subject matter itself.

Principles of Design

- **Balance:** The way elements of art are arranged to create a sense of stability and equal visual weight.
- **Contrast:** A difference in the use of two elements (rough & smooth, light & dark)
- **Emphasis:** Sense of importance given to any one part of the composition, or focal area of a work.
- **Movement:** The way elements of art direct a viewer's eye through a work, often to a focal area.
- **Pattern:** Repetition of one or more elements.
- **Proportion:** How parts of an artwork relate to each other in size or scale.
- **Rhythm:** Sense of movement in a composition created by the repetition of an element.
- **Unity:** Quality of wholeness achieved when separate elements work together.