

AP Studio Art is a college-level course that introduces students to the concepts, processes and techniques essential to artistic production. Students develop their own work, based upon an inquiry that they develop with the help of the instructor and their peers.

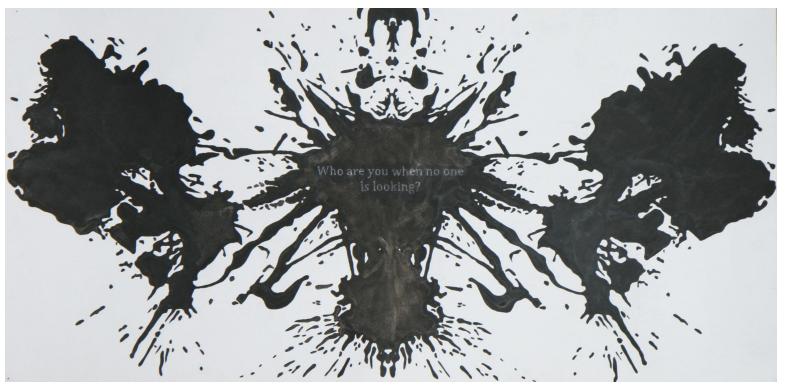
Experimentation, openness and curiosity are as important, if not more important, than a student's technical skill level when entering the class.

Although the assignments are primarily the result of each student's individual interests, the course focuses initially on building technical skills in drawing and painting including:

Observational Drawing
Perspective
Mark-making
Figure Drawing
Color Theory
Painting techniques (oil, acrylic, watercolor)



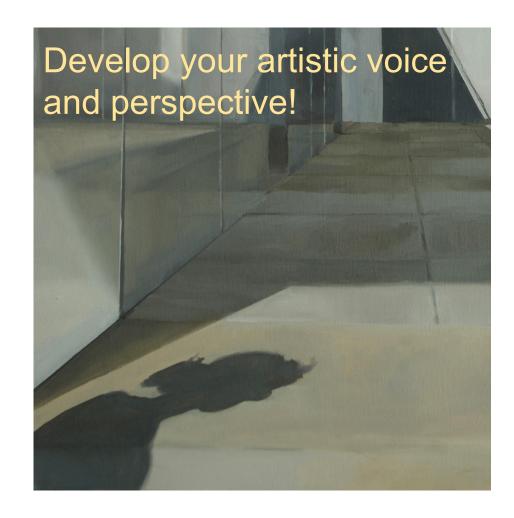
CONCEPTUAL & CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES



The course addresses art-making as a means of raising questions, doing research, and thinking about how art is experienced by a viewer

Students are taught in the course to consider their positioning, perspective, and personal experience as essential to defining a mode of expression that is meaningful and reflective of their sensibilities.

In this way, a major aim of the class is to help students find their artistic voice, honor their experience and find ways to communicate this visually.





Art in Context

AP Studio Art stresses that art is a language with a rich and varied history. The course is structured to introduce some fundamental styles, tendencies and ideas from art history. As students' work develops, students are guided to find reference points to support their inquiry.

THE EXAM:

The exam consists of a portfolio of 15 digital images submitted digitally to the College Board. Alongside these images, students submit a written explanation of how their inquiry developed. In addition, students also send 5 actual works to the college board to be more closely evaluated concerning their qualities as drawing. The works can be realistic, abstract, and/or conceptual.

The completed portfolio is evaluated in terms of how well it formulates a viable inquiry, shows evidence of process, experimentation and revision. The work is also evaluated as to its engagement with drawing issues such as composition, mark-making, surface, space, technique, and scale.

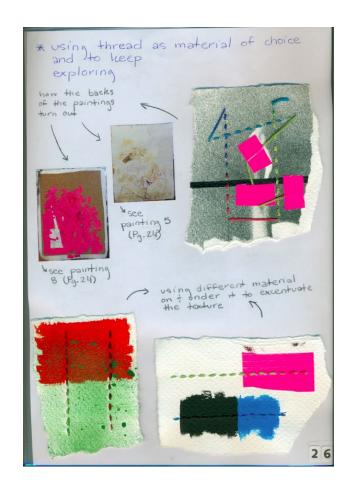


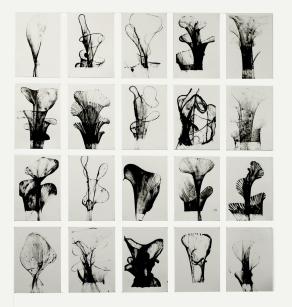
INQUIRY

Student-initiated projects begin with an open-ended inquiry question. In this example, the student wanted to explore their relationship to their body and contemporary culture's obsession with body image.

EXPERIMENTATION/ RESEARCH

Students develop their inquiry through a process of experimentation, documentation and research. This is a page from a student's sketchbook documenting material tests





PROCESS/PRACTICE

Students develop their ideas through practice, reflection and revision. In the course of producing their work, they discover the issues and questions that are most important to them. This is an installation of a students gestural drawings made with ink and string through an experimental practice.







Example of student work in relationship to an inquiry about women in society, inspired by a reading of the feminist-utopian novel, Herland.





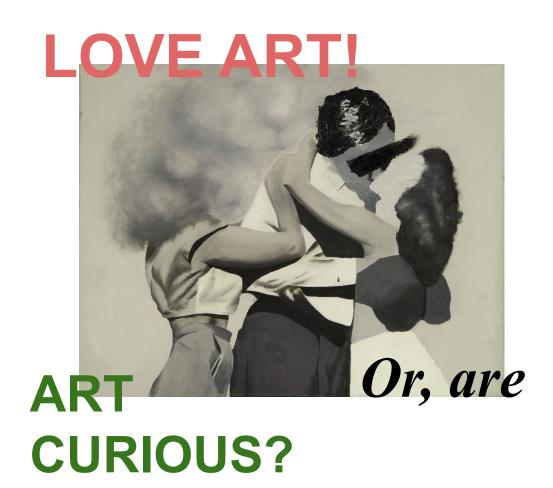


Example of student inquiry exploring poster design as a means of investigating self-identity in contemporary culture.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THE COURSE?

Students take the course because they:

- Want to grow as artists and thinkers
- Are interested in drawing and painting
- Want to engage in some self-directed research & exploration
- Are ambitious and curious to see how their ideas can be realized through art



WHAT IS THE COURSE GOOD FOR?

Building a portfolio of creative work to apply for art schools, *but also.....*

- Learning to communicate your ideas and thoughts
- Guided practice in developing an in-depth, self-directed project
- Building capacities for expression, reflection and engagement in process.



